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Letters from Sir George R— to Sir Charles B— concerning the affairs of Bavaria.

LETT. I. *Hamburg, Feb.* 17. 1778.

I Was reduced to run in my journey from one end of Germany to the other, like a man that haſtens to get out of a crowd ready to fight, and who have already lifted up their arms to knock one another down; for, my dear Sir Charles, ſuch is the preſent-ſituation of Germany. I was in Vienna at the time when the news of the death of the Elector of Bavaria arrived there. The ſame inſtant they ſet their troops a-marching to take poſſeſſion of the heritage, whilſt the Empreſs-Queen offered her prayers to beg the Lord for the preſervation of the peace. Indeed Heaven ſeemed to countenance the Auſtrians aim, and the Elector Palatine, whom the feodal law of Germany calls to the ſucceſſion, amazed at the honour to ſee a whole army ſent to congratulate him, ſigned, with a Chriſtian, nay, almoſt Apoſtolical reſignation, all the ceſſions and leaſes they could preſcribe, without knowing the exact and ſtrict explication of the agreement, if it be a third or a fourth part of the whole ſucceſſion, which he is to be gratified with. But as this Elector has no lawful children, his preſumptive heir, the Duke of Zwey-Brucken, was not ſo eaſy to be prevailed upon, and refuſed to ſign.

Mean while the King of Pruſſia, who thinks to be intitled to have a hand in the affairs of Germany, denoted his aſtoniſh-

ment at this proceeding, which, in his opinion, prejudiced not only the law of the Empire, and the ſacred promiſes of every Emperor at his acceſſion to the throne, but alſo the ſafety of every German prince who has ſome province to loſe.

Scarce was this firſt declaration of the King of Pruſſia delivered, when the Auſtrians, knowing how ſwift this king realizes his words, gave orders to all their troops in the remoteſt provinces to ſet on march, and made all neceſſary preparations for war; but I, not being curious to be an eye-witneſs of which, took poſt, and went immediately to Ratiſbon.

In that journey I ſaw one part of Bavaria in poſſeſſion of the Auſtrians, and its inhabitants vexed to the heart to paſs under a ſtrange government. I ſtayed five days there: from whence I repaired by way of Gotha to Berlin; where I made no long ſtay neither, but rather haſted to Hamburg, not liking to find any more guns and regiments in my walks.

And now, my dear Sir Charles, I am in a humour to converſe with you on what I have ſeen and what we are to ſee ſtill; particularly on the right of thoſe who began to take poſſeſſion of Bavaria, and on that of the others who oppoſe it.

But do not expect from me a learned diſſertation, grounded upon the law of the Empire, Teutonic, German, or upon the Holy and Roman law: for tho' we know perfectly well the laws and cuſtoms of our England, and particularly of our native county of Eſſex, we muſt needs agree to have but a ſmall idea of the right which an Emperor of Germany is intitled to.

Some inſtruction, however, I received of a learned man at Ratiſbon, gave me ſufficient notions of what they call the public law; which, joined to the ſmall ſtore of my own common ſenſe, will enable me, as I ſhall endeavour, to give you inſight enough into the matter now in queſtion.

Bavaria is one of the ancient dukedoms in Germany, belonging as a male fief of the Empire to the ſame houſe that poſſeſſed it, as they ſay, many centuries ago, before the time of Charles the Great, in the quality of kings. This houſe hath been divided into two branches; the one of which, now extinguiſhed, is the younger one, whereas the Elector Palatine deſcends from the eldeſt. Nothing ſeemed to hinder the re-annexation of the heritage of their anceſtors, ſo long ſeparated by the diviſion made by the two brothers of old: but the Auſtrian houſe, to ſeize on the greater part of it, forms upon four different arguments the following pretenſions.

In the firſt place, the extinguiſhed line of the Dukes of Bavaria have inconteſtably acquired different ſmall fiefs of the Empire, and the Palatine houſe, having always had but little alliance with the court of Vienna, could not get the coinveſtiture. The Emperor, at his acceſſion to the throne, promiſed by oath (which the Germans call the capitulation of election) to reclaim all the open unoccupied fiefs of the Empire, not to keep them, but to reſtore them to the diſpoſition of the joint ſtates of Germany. He could therefore with juſtice take poſſeſſion of the fiefs; but there was no neceſſity to ſet a whole army on march: one ſingle order of the aulic council would have been ſufficient.

Secondly, it is in the name of the Empreſs his mother that the Emperor forms the moſt of his pretenſions, which fall upon the whole Lower Bavaria, and upon the county of Mindelheim in Swabia, which they formerly gave to our Duke of Marlborough, and retook by the peace concluded at Raſtadt. They pretend there are two letters of inveſtiture; the one from Sigiſmund of the year 1414, and the other from Matthias of the year 1616, which prove inconteſtably the property of theſe provinces to the Auſtrian houſe.

My friend at Ratiſbon demonſtrated to me clearly the invalidity of ſuch inveſtitures, although they were exiſting; but, not to dwell any longer upon that ſubject, there is another point comical enough for every neutral ſpectator. It is inconteſtable, that all male fiefs cannot be given but to perſons of the ſame ſex; and that the male fiefs of the Empire cannot be changed into female ones, without the general conſent of all the provinces of the Empire, which likewiſe hath not been obſerved in the preſent caſe. Now ſuppoſe the above-mentioned inveſtitures were lawfully given to the Houſe of Auſtria, as is pretended, it was at leaſt when that Houſe was exiſting; but now it unfortunately happened that the male line thereof is alſo extinguiſhed by the death of Charles VI. which circumſtance the council at Vienna ſeems to have entirely forgotten.—I am, &c.

LETT. II. *Hamburg, Feb.* 18.

— It is a third principal article of the Emperor's pretenſion, to reclaim the pretended fiefs of Bohemia, ſituated in the Upper Palatinate. The Emperor pretends, that the line of Bavaria being extinguiſhed, theſe fiefs muſt devolve on him as their lord-paramount. That pretence hath, however, not its due weight. It is true, the Emperor Charles IV. had purchaſed theſe little lands from different lords for the ſum of 32,000 ſilver marks. But it is no leſs true, that he gave them afterwards in payment to Otho of Bavaria, who ſold him the electorſhip of Brandenburg. This Otho tranſmitted theſe fiefs to his couſins of Bavaria, and ſome time after they fell almoſt all to the Palatine line. The Palatine Frederick V. ſon-in-law to our King James I. intending to make himſelf king of Bohemia, loſt his own eſtates, and the Houſe of Auſtria laid hold on the whole Upper Palatinate, in which thoſe fiefs are ſituated. It was in the famous triennial war, during which the Elector of Bavaria was the firmeſt ſupport to the Houſe of Auſtria. He totally ſacrificed himſelf for its intereſt, ſo that at laſt he was driven out of his capital by the King of Sweden, Guſtavus Adolphus. At the end of the ſaid war he was found to have advanced to the court of Vienna the ſum of thirteen millions of German gilders, which the province of Upper Auſtria was given him in mortgage for. At the peace of Munſter the Emperor dexterouſly acquitted himſelf of this debt, by transferring to the Duke of Bavaria the greateſt part of the Upper Palatinate, looked upon by him as a property belonging to him by confiſcation; and ſo he gave the Houſe of Bavaria a province in payment, which was the property of his own anceſtors. One part of the Upper Palatinate was ſtill left to the Palatine houſe, viz. Sultzbach, with its dependencies, containing many fiefs of Bohemia.

It is ſaid, as my friend at Ratiſbon proved to me, in the fourth article of the peace of Weſtphalia, "That when the Bavarian line ſhould come to fail, the Palatine houſe ſhould re-enter into poſſeſſion of the whole Upper Palatinate." Notwithſtanding which, the Auſtrians are taking poſſeſſion of the whole province, both allodial and feodal, without making any difference between what reſults from the inheritance, and what the Elector Palatine had poſſeſſed from father to ſon.

In the fourth place, the court of Vienna lays claim to the whole allodial inheritance, which muſt be very conſiderable, and which they pretend to have got the right of acquiſition to. In the ordinary courſe of things it ſeems, that the Electreſs of Saxony, daughter of Charles VII. and ſiſter of the late Elector of Bavaria, ought to be heireſs thereof. But I have been aſſured at Vienna it could not be ſo, becauſe the Emperor Ferdinand, when marrying his ſon to a princeſs of Bavaria, on occaſion of that marriage, ordained, that their female offſpring ſhould for ever exclude thoſe of the ſame ſex, through all the following generations, in caſe the male ſhould come to fail in Bavaria. This ſtroke of ſublime juriſprudence is perhaps beyond your comprehenſion, my dear Sir Charles, but I will endeavour to put that caſe into a clearer light by an example.

Your mother left you the charming eſtate of W——, which ſhe inherited after her late brother's death. But I know, that the grand-aunt of your grand-ſire married a certain Scotchman, which was ſome centuries ago. If now in the contract drawn up for that purpoſe, the father of Gilbert Campbell had made the diſpoſition, that their female iſſue ſhould exclude thoſe of your mother's family, ſhe would have no right to her brother's inheritance, and you were without that eſtate. Do you underſtand that, my dear? The caſe is at leaſt vaſtly clear.—I am, &c.

LETT. III. *Hamburg, Feb.* 23.

The reports of an enſuing war in Germany ſtill continue, and I begin really to think that war inevitable. My former letters contain the reaſons alledged in behalf of the Emperor's heritage of Bavaria. Immediately there appeared a number of manifeſtoes, expoſing and repreſenting them under a thouſand different forms, and putting them into as many different lights as different are the party-intereſts.

Now, my dear Charles, I am going to tell you, what you cannot learn by the news-papers, and what came to my notice during the courſe of my travels in Germany, obſerving the methods which the cunningneſs of men, ſupported by the chance of events, made uſe for collecting ſtuff and materials for that dreadful war which they are now preparing. Auſtria at all times conſidered Bavaria as a piece of ground, the moſt fit for her

projects of enlarging her power considerably. The course of the rivers Iser and Inn seemed expressly made for securing her frontiers, and for establishing a communication by water to the different saltpits, and to the trade of the whole Italy, through the county of Tyrol. But an interest exceedingly greater, is to be master of the Danube, which they do not despair of obtaining, from its spring to the entrance into the Black sea. But a third consideration may perhaps, more than any other, have influence upon the resolutions of the Austrian ministry, and is the following.

A great part of Swabia belongs to Austria. If the province of Bavaria could be joined thereto, being situated in the middle of both, the Austrian army might in future march to the gates of Breisac and Strasburg, without touching any other but her own territories.

What encouragement for an emperor, young, ambitious, full of vigour, and, what is more, born a Lotharingian prince!

It is, therefore, the court of Vienna wished always at any price to possess the dukedom of Bavaria. Immediately after the last war, something concerning these views was touched on by the King of Prussia; but this monarch, discerning too well the main point thereof, did but little favour a design of that nature. In the mean time it was wisely judged at Vienna, that the Elector of Bavaria, being then sixteen years younger, would naturally survive the King; and accordingly it was thought fit to expect that event.

But the small pox having made away with the Elector of Bavaria, the subtle foresight of the Austrian ministry was thereby entirely destroyed. However, when the news of his death arrived at Vienna, the Emperor did not fail to take his measures at all events. He saw clearly the chief business was, to obtain the consent of the Empress-Queen for the march of the troops; for this princess, joining much humanity and charity to a great deal of devotion, could not but abhor any war, knowing by experience the dreadful consequences thereof. It was therefore resolved to make her believe, that a war could no otherwise be avoided, but by taking possession of the dukedom of Bavaria with a formidable army: this, it was said, would determine the Elector Palatine to submit to any conditions offered him; and such a vigorous demonstration would make the King of Prussia be quiet; it being notorious, as was added with confidence, that this king could not, nor would not, make war during the course of his reign; that, on the contrary, if way was given to protestations and discussions, the attention of every prince about their interests would be awakened, and they would get time to enter into alliances; which would unavoidably kindle a war, or reduce her Majesty to abandon all hopes of fulfilling such fine political prospects.

The Empress, having at first a little hesitated, was then at a loss, and at last consented to the marching of the troops. When the Emperor and Prince Kaunitz alledged these reasons, they were, as I believe, themselves persuaded to be in the right: and the cause of their mistake was one of those infinite trifling things that usually produce the greatest events in our planets; for, dear Sir Charles, penetrating into the very first motives of some actions of the greatest political skill, we will often find, the gloves of our Queen Anne to have made the peace of Utrecht. I will explain the matter.

The first physician of the court of Vienna was very famous for his skill in the science he practised. His son, a man of parts, seemed to have embraced another sort of business; and after having applied himself some time to political affairs, he was sent envoy to the court of Prussia, where he resided for many years. There, like the cat in the fable, transformed by the grace of Jupiter into a lady, he relapsed into his former nature and occupation. He thought not to be sent to Berlin, but for feeling the pulse of the king and his army, and instead of ministerial accounts, he sent to Vienna a *status morbi* of both, which, in case of a war, must needs disable them from any activity. After many repetitions and arguments, his predictions gained credit; but, unluckily for him, they are now found contradicted by the event, as those of Great Hermes of old. — I am, &c.

LETT. IV. *Hamburg, March* 12.

Now, my dear Charles, let us chatter once more about the interest of the Elector Palatine and the King of Prussia.

The first of these princes, whom I don't know, but whose great personal qualities I am told of, instead of earning one of the richest successions, saw himself overwhelmed by an incident, impos-

sible

ſible to foreſee in its whole extent. Some ambiguous reports, it is true, had given ſuſpicion the houſe of Auſtria intended to ſnatch away ſome few parts of Bavaria; but it was ſuppoſed, the whole claim would only be laid upon ſome borders of the territory along the Inn, and perhaps upon the ſalt-pits which are found in that country. Nay, the miniſter at Manheim even endeavoured to prevent the conteſtations that might ariſe in caſe of the death of the Elector of Bavaria; and therefore the Palatine envoy reſiding at Vienna, was given full power to treat about the matter with the Imperial court. But this miniſter, by name, I think, *Backer*, happening to die two years ago, the buſineſs ſtopped there. When the death of the Elector of Bavaria was reported at Vienna, the Palatine envoy was inſtantly called for to the council. He was told, that their Imperial Majeſties now agreed to the points propoſed by his court two years ago, and for that purpoſe he was bid to ſign the convention, which they laid before him fully drawn up and engroſſed. The envoy endeavoured to repreſent, that his court never intended to yield to ſo important a ceſſion, and begged ſome delay might be given him, to write to his maſter to be inveſted with poſitive power to that effect. They anſwered him, he was known to be ſufficiently empowered; that an army being ordered to march, it would be impoſſible to grant the leaſt delay, and he would be accountable for all the miſchief that might happen to the intereſt of his ſovereign by his tergiverſation. Whether terrified by theſe threatenings, or influenced by ſome other reaſon, the envoy ſigned all he was deſired; and a courier was ſent to the Elector Palatine, requeſting him to ratify the tranſactions of his plenipotentiary; at the ſame time adding threats and promiſes. The Elector, being paſſed his youth, without progeny to ſucceed him, not daring to hope for any aſſiſtance, thought to purchaſe his own quiet, and prevent a greater miſchief, by yielding to violence. He ſigned every thing that he was deſired; and the ambaſſador of Vienna, in order to give him a ſhining proof of the Imperial propenſity, adorned him with the order of the Golden Fleece. The ſame order was offered to the Duke of Zwey-Brucken, his preſumptive heir; but he proteſted againſt a decoration to be bought at ſo high a rate, and ventured to withdraw his neck from the fatal ſtring. I muſt call it ſo, becauſe it reminds me of the cuſtoms of the Ottoman Porte; and truly, dear Charles, there will often be found a reſemblance betwixt ſome actions of men that ſeem of the greateſt diſparity at firſt ſight. The Grand Signor ſends his ſtring to every rich bacha and vizir as ſoon as his Highneſs intends to inherit their eſtate. The German Emperor would be glad, if he could make uſe of the ſtring of his order, for making away only with the rich ſucceſſions of the greateſt princes, but he will gallantly let the man live. If this method is once eſtabliſhed, he will reap greater advantages from it, than the other.

The Duke of Zwey-Brucken, I ſay, refuſed ſubſcribing to the alienation of his forefathers ſucceſſion: he therefore applied to the King of Pruſſia; and found in this prince a powerful defender, ready to aſſiſt him to far as to carry alone the burthen of an onerous war, and to run the riſk thereof. Preſently immenſe preparations were made, proving that the King thought to realize his promiſes: and the public, ſurpriſed at ſo extraordinary and prodigious expences, which ſovereigns ſeldom ſquander away without their own intereſt, imputed to the King of Pruſſia views of aggrandiſement, which, upon the ſtricteſt inquiry, I dare aſſure you to be no wiſe exiſting. There is, however, a ſtronger motive to theſe meaſures, viz. the ſafety of his own dominions, and the liberty of all Germany. That part which the Auſtrians intend taking poſſeſſion of, would increaſe their armies at leaſt with 30,000 men. Suppoſe that, on the firſt occaſion, ſome other German countries would be treated in the ſame manner, the others, I promiſe you, will ſoon be diſabled to oppoſe any reſiſtance againſt the prodigious number of forces the houſe of Auſtria will then have acquired. The firſt duty of a king is undoubtedly to preſerve the monarchy God hath intruſted him with; the ſecond, to be the defender and deliverer of his allies.

What a glorious part is that of the King of Pruſſia!

It is but imperfectly we know that prince, who lives but at ſo little diſtance from us. I will tell you only one obſervation I made at Berlin concerning him. Every body was convinced of the proximity of a war, undoubtedly violent and dangerous; but nothing can equal the

confidence and tranquillity of the whole people; the only ſubject of the general uneaſineſs being, that the health of their king might perhaps be endangered by the hardſhips of a campaign. This only ſtroke will enable you to judge what a man he is, and what a king! But in order to judge more accurately, come to ſee him where he is.—— I am for ever, &c.

Mr URBAN, *Lindfield, Mar.* 31. 1778.

If the following fragment of an addreſs, written by that curious naturaliſt Dr Plot, has not been before publiſhed, (as I cannot find that it has), I ſhould be glad to ſee it inſerted in your magazine. STEPH. VINE.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

WHen I firſt imparted to your Majeſty the manner of felling of timber in the county of Stafford, with the advantage it might give to your royal navy, were all the timber uſed in building your fleets ſo felled; according to your Majeſty's command, I immediately (the ſame day) waited upon Mr Secretary Pepys, and Sir Anthony Deane, and communicated the matter to them; who both promiſed me they would acquaint your Majeſty I had ſo done, and give your Majeſty an account of their preſent thoughts of it: but the former, viz. Mr Secretary Pepys, received ſo ſtrong an impreſſion of the uſefulneſs of the experiment, and thought it, after conſideration, of that importance, that he deſired me, the day following, further to conſider this ſubject, and ſee what might be added to what I had already written in my Hiſtory of Staffordſhire, relating to it, and what material objections I made, why this cuſtom of Staffordſhire, and the neighbouring counties, might not be practiſed here, in the ſouth of England, as well as there; and to put all into writing for your Majeſty's uſe.

For the performance whereof, with as much brevity as perſpicuity will allow me, your Majeſty is firſt deſired to recollect, what I told your Majeſty in May laſt, that the cuſtom of felling timber here, in the ſouth of England, differs from that of Staffordſhire only in two things, viz. the time of felling, and manner of barking; it being felled here in the ſpring, as ſoon as the ſap is found to be fully up by the trees putting out; and then barked after the trees are proſtrate, the ſap yet remaining in the bodies of them: whereas there it is firſt barked, (in the ſpring as here), but before it is felled, the trees yet ſtanding, and living all the ſummer; and not felled till the following winter, when the ſap is fully retired. Whether of which cuſtoms of felling timber, either for ſhips or other buildings, is moſt eligible, is the point to be diſcourſed.

In the clearing whereof, may it pleaſe your Majeſty, firſt, to take notice, that all trees, in the ſpring-ſeaſon, (when uſually we fell them in the ſouth of England), and ſome time after, are pregnant, and ſpend themſelves (as animals do in their reſpective offſpring) in the production of leaves and fruits, and ſo become weaker than at other times of the year, their cavities and pores being then turgid with juices or ſap; which, the tree being felled at that time, ſtill remain in the pores, having now no manner of means of return, and there putrefy, not only leaving the tree full of cavities, which render the timber weak, but, ſecondly, breeding a worm (as both Pliny and Mr Evelyn teſtify) that will ſo exceedingly prejudice it, that it becomes altogether unfit for ſtrong incumbencies, or other robuſt uſes. Thirdly, that all timber felled at this time of the year (whether the juices putrefy, or otherwiſe ſweat and dry away) is not only ſubject to riſt or gape, but will ſhrink ſo conſiderably, that a piece of ſuch timber, of a foot ſquare, will uſually ſhrink in breadth three fourths of an inch; than which, ſays Vegetius, nothing is more pernicious, if uſed for building of ſhips. To which, fourthly, the firſt and greateſt Roman Emperor, Julius Cæſar, adds, that tho' ſhips may be made of ſuch moiſt timber felled in the ſpring, yet they will certainly be ſlugs, not near ſo good ſailors, as ſhips made of timber felled later in the year.

In all which circumſtances, I find moſt of the ancients ſo very well agree, that none of them adviſe the felling of timber for any ſort of uſe before autumn at ſooneſt; others not till the trees had borne their fruit; which, ſays Theophraſtus, muſt always be proportionably later, as their fruits are ripe later in the year; a third ſort not till mid-winter; not till November, ſays Palladius; nay, not till the winter ſolſtice, ſays the wiſe Cato, and then too, in the decreaſe or wane of the moon; between the 15th and 23d days of her age, ſays Vegetius; or rather, according to Columella, between the 20th and the new moon. In general, ſays

says Theophrastus, the oak must be felled very late in the winter; not till December, as the Emperor Constantinus Pogonatus positively asserts, the moon too being then under the earth, as it is always in the day-time in the wane or decrease. And the felling the oak within these limits, they call *tempestiva cæsura*, felling timber in season, which they all unanimously pronounce, if thus felled, will neither shrink, warp, or cleave, nor admit decay in many years, it being as tough as horn, and the whole tree in a manner, as Theophrastus asserts, as hard and firm as the heart. With whom also agrees our countryman Mr Evelyn: If you fell not oaks, says he, till the sap is in repose, as it is commonly about November and December, after the frost has well nipt them, the very saplings, thus cut, will continue without decay as long as the heart of the tree.

And the reason of all this is given, in short, by Vitruvius: *Quæ aeris hyberni vis comprimit, et consolidat arbores*; Because the winter-air doth close the pores, the sap being now retired, and so consequently consolidates all trees; especially, says he, if before the descent of the sap, a kerse be cut round the tree, through the sappy part, to the *medulla*, or heart, so that the sap or superfluous juices may run forth whilst the tree is standing and yet living; by which means the oak, as he and Pliny both express it, will acquire a sort of eternity in its duration. And much more will it so, if it be barked in the spring, and left standing naked all the summer, exposed to the sun and wind, as is usual in Staffordshire and the adjacent counties: whereby they find, by long experience, the trunks of their trees so dried and hardened, that the sappy part in a manner becomes as firm and durable as the heart itself.

Which way of barking and felling of timber, though it were unknown to the ancients, (as perhaps it is still to all the world besides those few counties), yet they seem not unacquainted with the rationality of the practice. For Seneca observes, the timber most exposed to the cold winds, to be most strong and solid, and that therefore Chiron made Achilles's spear of a mountain-tree. Homer also tells us, that the spear of Agamemnon was Ἀνεμοτρεφὴς ἰσχὸς, made of a tree so exposed; for which Didymus gives the reason, Τα γαρ ἐν ανεμῳ (says he) πλέον γυμναζόμενα δένδρα, στερεα: for that being continually weather-beaten, they become harder and tougher. And Pliny says expressly as much for the sun as they for the wind, viz. that the wood of trees exposed to the sun-shine is most fast and durable; for which reason it is, too, that the great Vitruvius prefers the timber on the south side of the Apennine, (where it winds about, and incloses Tuscany and Campania, and strongly reflects the heats of sun upon it, as it were from a concave), incomparably beyond that which grows upon the north side of the same hill, in the shady moist grounds: of which his opinion, he renders us this very good reason,—for that the sun does not only lick up the superfluous moisture of the earth, whence the trees are supplied in such shady places with too great a quantity, but in great measure exhales the remaining juices, after the production of leaves and fruit, out of the trees themselves, rendering the timber of them the more close, substantial, and durable; which certainly it would do also much more effectually, if the bark were taken off in the spring of the year, as is accustomed in Staffordshire, where the people are content to use this method in their provision of timber, though but for private uses.

Much rather should it be done, then, in so public a concern as the building of ships, where tough and solid timber is much more necessary than in ordinary buildings. Nor can I yet meet with any material objections, either from the Staffordshire gentlemen, (many of whom I have consulted about this affair since I informed your Majesty of the advantage of it), or from any others, why this practice may not be used here in the south of England, as well as there. There is indeed an act of parliament 1° Jac. I. ch. 22. whereby your Majesty's subjects are forbid felling timber, in consideration of the tan, at any other time but between the first of April and last of June, when the sap is up, and the bark will run; made on supposition, I guess, that, should they have admitted felling of timber in any other season, the tanners might have wanted a supply of bark. To which I readily answer, that I fear the legislators that pressed the making that act, were ignorant that the bark might be taken off in the spring, and that the tree, notwithstanding, would live and flourish till the winter following, as I have seen many in Staffordshire; so

that

that though the tree be not felled till the winter-ſolſtice, or January following, yet the tanner is not at all defeated of his tan, but has it here in as due ſeaſon as in any of the ſouthern counties. The legiſlators, I ſay, were ignorant of this, otherwiſe certainly they would never have made ſuch an act, ſo pernicious to the whole kingdom, as felling of timber at this ſeaſon is, for the ſake of a few tanners. Beſide, ſecondly, I anſwer, that notwithſtanding this ignorance, yet even then they were ſo wiſe as to except in that act the timber to be uſed in the building of ſhips, which may be felled in winter, or any other time; as I am told all the ancient timber now remaining in the Royal Sovereign was, it being ſtill ſo hard, that it is no eaſy matter to drive a nail into it: ſo that your Majeſty has no need of giving yourſelf the trouble of procuring the alteration or repeal of that act upon this account only, though it may poſſibly be deſireable, becauſe profitable to the ſubject, upon many others.

It is true, indeed, that the barking or pilling the trees ſtanding, is ſomewhat more troubleſome, and therefore ſomewhat more chargeable, than when they are proſtrate; and that it is likely people, therefore, have uſually felled their timber, as well for ſhipping as other uſes, in the ſpring of the year, for the ſake of the more eaſy and cheap barking it only, than any thing elſe. It is true, too, that timber is harder to fell in winter, it being now ſo compact and firm, that the axe will not make ſo great a riddance as it does in the ſpring; which will alſo increaſe the price of its felling ſome ſmall matter; and ſo of the ſawing afterwards. But how inconſiderable theſe things are, in compariſon of the great good your Majeſty will reap by this manner of felling, (as is plain from what has been ſaid above), I need not acquaint your Majeſty, it being, I think, ſelf evident.

The greateſt objection that I can foreſee will be urged here, in the ſouth, againſt this practice, is, that, if the timber be not felled by mid-winter or January, where it grows in copſes and woods, they cannot, perhaps, incloſe their young ſprings ſo ſoon as ſome may imagine needful, and therefore will be backward to fell their timber, ſo growing, at that ſeaſon.

To which I anſwer, firſt, that the timber ſo felled in the woods or copſes, may be eaſily carried off before the ſecond ſpring, and the firſt it muſt be there whenever it is felled. But, ſecondly, that which will quite remove this inconſiderable difficulty is, that perhaps your Majeſty may think it expedient that no timber whatſoever, growing in woods or copſes, be at all bought into your Majeſty's yards; for that timber growing in ſuch ſhady places, and ſo fenced from ſun and wind, as timber in woods for the moſt part is, cannot be ſo good as that which comes from an expoſed ſituation, ſuch as it uſually has in your Majeſty's foreſts, and in the chaces, parks, and hedge-rows or open fields of your ſubjects: where, too, it is indifferent at leaſt, if not better for the proprietor, that it be felled in winter, when the graſs and corn is gone, than in the ſpring itſelf. So that I cannot ſee what your Majeſty has more to do in this matter, in caſe your Majeſty thinks fit to make uſe of this method, than to order your officers aſſigned for that purpoſe, to buy all their timber under ſuch conditions as to be felled in winter, injoining the proprietor (unleſs your Majeſty think fit alſo to buy the park) to take it off in the ſpring, in due time, making him ſome ſmall allowance for the greater trouble he will have in pilling it ſtanding; and in caſe your Majeſty ſhall pleaſe, alſo, to make experiment of ——

P. S. The above is all that remains of this curious piece of natural hiſtory, which is neatly written, and I ſhould be almoſt ready to think to have been a part of the original, intended to have been preſented to K. James II.

Gent. Mag.

Dean Swift and a Lawyer.

DEan Swift having preached an aſſize-ſermon in Ireland, was afterwards invited to dine with the Judges; and having in his diſcourſe conſidered the uſe and abuſe of the law, he then bore a little hard upon thoſe counſellors who plead cauſes which they know in their conſciences to be wrong. When dinner was over, and the glaſs began to go round, a young barriſter took occaſion to retort upon the Dean; and after ſeveral altercations, the Counſellor aſked him, "If the devil was to die, whether a *parſon* might not be found for money to preach his funeral ſermon?" "Yes, (ſaid Swift), I would gladly be the man, and I would then give the *Devil* his due, as I have this day his *Children*."

The

The History of 1776, continued. [128.]

British Parliament, seff. 1775-6.

THE rapidity with which a continued ſucceſſion of buſineſs was carried through, and the earneſtneſs with which matters of great concern were agitated before the receſs of parliament, occaſioned our paſſing over a petition from the aſſembly of Nova Scotia [38. 9.], which was preſented to each Houſe at the opening of the ſeſſion. It was ſent from that aſſembly in conſequence of Lord North's conciliatory propoſition; and was intended, by thoſe who promoted it in that colony, as a pattern and precedent for the reſt. It was a ſeparate propoſal, and in that light coincided with the general policy, which dictated the conciliatory propoſition. It ſeemed to propoſe ſome revenue originating in the colonies, and to be enacted by parliament; and though the probable amount would be inconſiderable, yet the eſtabliſhment of the doctrine being at that time of more conſideration, than the amount of the revenue immediately to be obtained, the petition was more favourably received by adminiſtration; and on the very firſt day of the ſeſſion, when the Speaker laid it before the Houſe of Commons, a ſhort day was appointed for taking it into conſideration; though not without ſome animadverſion on the part of oppoſition, who treated the whole as one of thoſe mean contrivances, by which miniſtry, as they ſaid, were in the practice of mocking the credulity and implicit confidence of parliament; and they predicted, that it would come to the end which was to be expected from its futility, and the impracticable nature of the ſcheme which it was intended to execute.

The mode of granting a revenue propoſed by this aſſembly, was the payment of ſome ſpecific duty per cent. upon the importation of all foreign commodities, Bay-ſalt only excepted, by which means the amount of the revenue would at all times bear a due relation and proportion to the opulence and conſumption of the province. It was intended, that the rate of this duty ſhould in the firſt inſtance be fixed by parliament, and afterwards be perpetual and unchangeable, excepting only, that at certain ſtated times it was to undergo ſuch regulation as would preſerve the comparative value of money and commodities in its original ſtate.

When the propoſition came to be debated in the committee, the objections which had been only hinted the firſt day, were more largely and ſtrongly enforced. Againſt thoſe the miniſters contended, That the faith of the houſe and nation obliged them to give effect to a plan laid before them in conſequence of their own reſolution, to which the offer was ſubſtantially agreeable; that the ſmalneſs of the revenue offered could be no objection; that if it was a poor proviſion, it came from a poor province; but it would grow with the circumſtances of the country; and under this plan we ſhould find an advantage from the proſperity of our colonies very different from our former experience, when we found only an increaſe of inſolence, and not of ſupport and ſupply, from their increaſe of ſtrength; that the fidelity of parliament to its engagements, and the moderation of its demands, would engage the other colonies to ſubmiſſion, and would diſabuſe them with regard to the violent prejudices inſtilled into them by their factious leaders; that more favourable times and good management would improve this moderate beginning into a beneficial revenue.

On the other hand, the minority treated it with the greateſt ſcorn. They ſaid, it was a thing not fit to be ſeriouſly debated; that if the miniſters had bound the public faith to this abſurd and ridiculous project, it was a great aggravation of their offence ſo to trifle with the national honour; that the old revenue which they were to give up, every part of which (except the tea tax) had been quietly paid in all the colonies, was of more value than the new duties which were propoſed to be granted; and this was the ſort of relief to the public burdens ſought by our war, and by the conciliatory propoſition which was framed to end it. They ſaid, that the principle of the tea-tax continued to haunt them in every thing they did; for as that tax drew back a duty which ought to be paid here, in order to impoſe a ſmaller duty in America, this was exactly of the ſame nature, but of a much wider, and of a more miſchievous extent, as it laid eight per cent. not on one article, but on all the certificate-goods ſent from England, from which, to facilitate the trade to the colonies, we had drawn back all the duties payable at home. Theſe, and very many other objections, drew the debates into length in the committee;

mittee; but the miniſtry, though evidently embarraſſed, were reſolved to carry reſolutions conformable to the petition.

Many cauſes concurred to leſſen the effect of this petition from Nova Scotia. That province had coſt government immenſe ſums of money, without its growth or value in any degree correſponding with the expence. It was ſtill unequal to the ſupport of its own civil government, the expence of which was annually granted by parliament; ſo that the offer of a revenue in ſuch circumſtances, however laudable the motives and intention, carried in ſome degree a ludicrous appearance. As it was alſo under the influence of a military power, its acts could not be ſuppoſed to carry any great weight as an example, with thoſe colonies who abhorred ſuch an appearance, and whoſe preſent troubles aroſe from a defence of their civil immunities and conſtitution.

The petition beſides contained a long catalogue of grievances, the redreſs of which was as earneſtly preſſed, though in more ſupplicant language, as a ſimilar redreſs had been by the other provinces, and ſeemed in ſome degree to be conſidered as conditional and neceſſary, towards the eſtabliſhment of a permanent connection, and for retaining the affection and obedience of the people. The aſſembly alſo preſſed moſt earneſtly, that when at any time future exigencies ſhould require further ſupplies, the requiſition ſhould be made in the uſual manner formerly practiſed, whereby they might have an opportunity of ſhewing their duty and attachment, their ſenſe of the cauſe for which it was made, and by that means, and that only, of rendering the ſovereign acquainted with the true ſenſe of his people in that diſtant part of his dominions. So that, upon the whole, excepting the profeſſion of ſubmiſſion to the ſupreme legiſlature, which had only of late been a queſtion any where, and the propoſal of a duty, which ſeemed little more than a commercial regulation, this petition did not contain any thing eſſentially different from the former applications of other colonies.

Reſolutions to the following purpoſe were however propoſed, Nov. 23. by the miniſter [17. 668.], and paſſed in a committee, as foundations for an intended bill, viz. That the propoſal of a poundage duty, *ad valorem*, upon all commodities imported, (Bay-ſalt excepted), not being the produce of the Britiſh dominions in Europe or America, to be diſpoſed of by parliament, ſhould be accepted, and the duty fixed at 8 l. per cent. upon all ſuch commodities: That as ſoon as the neceſſary acts for that purpoſe were paſſed by the aſſembly of Nova Scotia, and had received the royal approbation, all other taxes and duties in that province ſhould ceaſe and be diſcontinued, and no others laid on, while thoſe acts continued in force, excepting only ſuch duties as were found neceſſary for the regulation of commerce, the nett produce of which were to be carried to the account of the province: And to admit an importation into that province of wines, oranges, lemons, currants, and raiſins, directly from the place of their growth and produce.

This relaxation of the act of navigation, though not very conſiderable, was intended to ſhew the favourable diſpoſition of parliament towards this province, which had ſet ſo laudable an example of obedience; and ſeemed to hold out to the colonies in general, an enlargement of commerce, as a compenſation for their acceding to the conciliatory reſolution. Indeed, much attention was paid to this petition, as forming a model for future taxation, and proving, what had been denied, that the ſyſtem of the conciliatory propoſition was not impracticable. Serious hopes were entertained of its effect until it had paſſed the committee. But it ſeemed as if the pacific ſyſtem, in which this was conſidered as a leading part, was about that time laid aſide. Whatever the cauſe might have been, to the ſurpriſe of many, the whole matter was ſuffered to die away; no bill was brought in, and the petition was heard no more of after the holidays.

The firſt public matter of any conſequence that was brought forward after the receſs, related to a late meaſure of government in Ireland. [Our readers have already ſeen the meſſage of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by the King's command, to the Commons of that kingdom, for admitting his Majeſty's ſending abroad 4000 of the troops on the Iriſh eſtabliſhment, to be taken into the pay of G. Britain on their leaving Ireland; and to be replaced, if the parliament deſired it, by an equal number of foreign Proteſtants, ſubjects of the Princes

of

of Brunſwick and Heſſe-Caſſel, to be continued in Ireland in the pay of G. Britain; and alſo the proceedings of the Britiſh Commons on a complaint made Feb. 15. 1776, concerning this meaſure, by Mr T. Townſhend, and a motion for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the matter of the complaint, and to report [38. 113, 57.]. The arguments in ſupport of and in oppoſition to Mr Townſhend's motion, we give from the Annual Regiſter, viz.]

Mr Townſhend ſupported his motion with great ability, and was equally well ſeconded by his friends. They maintained, that the privileges of that Houſe, though applied to themſelves individually, or collectively in a more confined ſenſe, were the indubitable right of all the Commons of England, who had one general intereſt in them; that though each of theſe was an object of conſideration, they all ſunk to a very inferior degree of importance, when at all placed in oppoſition to, or compared with, that ineſtimable privilege, the power of granting money, of holding the purſe of their conſtituents, and of guarding it from the hands of violence, art, or fraud. This was a truſt of the firſt magnitude, which, in fact, included every other; for while that was preſerved inviolate, the crown would remain under the conſtitutional controul of parliament; but whenever that was wreſted by open force, defeated by indirect means, or done away by fraud, the liberties and privileges of the people would be for ever annihilated. They ſhewed the wiſe, commendable, and well-founded jealouſy ſhewn by the Commons, when, at any time, even the other Houſe had interfered in the ſmalleſt degree with that great privilege; but that when any attempts of the ſort were made by the crown, or by its miniſterial agents, they immediately caught the alarm; and however they were before divided, had, at all times, uniformly united, as if actuated by one ſoul, in reſiſting the ſmalleſt incroachment upon their power of granting or refuſing their own money, and that of their conſtituents.

They ſaid, that the meſſage in queſtion preſented ſeveral faces, and contained matters of the moſt ſuſpicious and alarming nature; that if the conditions it held out had been accepted, the parliament of England would have been pledged to that of Ireland for the payment of 8000 men, only to have the uſe of 4000; ſo that Ireland was to be bribed into an acceptance of this inſidious bargain, by retaining her uſual eſtabliſhment as to number, while ſhe was to be eaſed of one third of the burthen; that ſuch a propoſition could only have originated from the worſt deſigns, as the abſurdity, they ſaid, was too glaring to be charged to any degree of folly; but that the nature of the bargain was a matter of little conſequence, when put in competition with that double violation of the conſtitution, that daring temerity of engaging for the payment of great ſums of money, and venturing to propoſe the introduction of foreign forces, without the conſent of parliament.

Some gentlemen went ſo far as to ſay, that no doubt could be entertained of the deſigns from whence theſe propoſitions originated. One was an experiment on the Iriſh parliament, to try if it could be induced to conſent to the reception of foreign troops, thereby to eſtabliſh a precedent which might be afterwards applied to other purpoſes. The other alſo had its fixed object. It was a ſcheme, they ſaid, however deep, formed on very ſimple principles, and went directly to veſt in the crown the virtual power of taxing, as opportunity might ſerve, both Great Britain and Ireland. In Ireland, the miniſter was to be taught to aſk ſome favour; then England was to be pledged. In England again, when ſuch circumſtances occurred as rendered the attempt impracticable, Ireland was to be taxed, to maintain the ſupremacy of the Britiſh legiſlature. In the mean time, it prepared the minds of the people, and habituated them to ſuch notions, as would by degrees be the means of reducing the parliament of each to be the mere inſtrumental agents of the crown, without the leaſt degree of will or independence whatever.

Adminiſtration ſeemed in an odd ſituation upon this attack. The matter was ſerious; the offer of introducing foreign troops without the previous conſent of parliament, indeed to introduce them at all as a permanent part of our military eſtabliſhment, could not be a matter of indifference to the conſtitution and ſafety of theſe kingdoms. On this occaſion, no ſmall marks of want of concert and ſyſtem appeared, in the grounds upon which this meaſure was explained or defended in the debate. The miniſter diſavowed thoſe ſpecific inſtructions, upon

which it was ſuppoſed the meſſage muſt have been founded; but acknowledged his general co-operation, in matters relative to the government of Ireland. Both he, and another Lord, lately come into adminiſtration, diſclaimed all reſponſibility whatever, for the conduct of his Majeſty's ſervants in that kingdom. They ſaid in general, or ſeparately, that the Viceroy might have miſtaken, or exceeded his inſtructions; that he might not have conveyed his meaning in the cleareſt terms; but that there was no relation between the Britiſh miniſtry and the King's ſervants in that country, which rendered the former in any degree accountable for theſe matters, and conſequently they could not be affected by any cenſure grounded upon them. They, however, juſtified the firſt propoſition in the meſſage, as referring to the promiſe which the King had made to the parliament of Ireland, that 12,000 of the forces on that eſtabliſhment, ſhould always be left for the defence of the kingdom [31. 612.]. In that ſenſe, they ſaid, the propoſal was ſtrictly defenſible, and came clearly and legally within the conſtitutional exerciſe of the regal power. As to the ſecond propoſition, it was allowed, that the paying for 8000 men, when 4000 only were obtained, appeared to be extremely uneconomical; that however, if the men could not be obtained upon better terms, the meaſure was defenſible on the ground of neceſſity; and if there were alſo ſufficient reaſons for thinking it better to employ natives than foreigners in North America, they would be a juſtification of the latter part of the ſame propoſition.

Whilſt the official miniſters ſtood on this ground, a totally different mode of defence was adopted by ſeveral of thoſe who are vulgarly known under the denomination of King's friends. Some of theſe maintained the high prerogative right, of introducing foreign forces into any part of the dominions, whenever the exigencies of ſtate rendered it expedient or neceſſary. They alſo inſiſted, that the meſſage was worded in a manner perfectly agreeable to official uſage; that the King had a right to bind himſelf by promiſe to his Iriſh parliament, and to make the preſent application for a releaſe from that promiſe; that the meaſure was in exact conformity with, or more properly a part of, thoſe undoubted branches of the prerogative, by which the crown raiſed troops of its own will, and then applied to parliament for their payment; or entered into treaties, for the ſame purpoſe, with foreign princes, and pledged it for a due performance of the articles.

Some others on the ſame ſide, not ſatisfied with endeavouring by explanation to weaken what was ſaid by the mover to be the obvious ſenſe of the words, attempted boldly to prove, that the meſſage meant the direct reverſe. Theſe contended, rather ludicrouſly enough, that the whole parliament of Ireland, had not only totally miſunderſtood the meaning of the meſſage, and miſconceived the Lord Lieutenant's intentions, but that they had gone through a ſeries of public buſineſs founded upon that deception and error, without the ſmalleſt light being offered by the nobleman in queſtion, though the Speaker had, at the head of the Houſe of Commons, made a public declaration of his and their blindneſs in his preſence. It is very difficult to reconcile the grounds of theſe ſeveral arguments; and this laſt, of ſuppoſing that the Lord Lieutenant and the whole Iriſh legiſlature were miſtaken in the ſubject of a meſſage ſent by the one, and received and anſwered by the other, was ſcarcely ſuitable to ſo important a matter.

Some of the gentlemen in oppoſition conſidered the buſineſs as of ſomewhat a leſs dangerous nature, from the ſcheme's not being carried into execution. They held, that the ſpirit and magnanimity of Ireland, in rejecting the foreign troops, and in refuſing to accept the offer for leſſening her own burthen by throwing a part of it upon G. Britain, had already obviated the miſchievous tendency of that meaſure; ſo that the only object of cenſure now remaining, was the evil intention from which it originated. They alſo held, that the whole weight of the cenſure would fall upon the Lord Lieutenant, who was merely miniſterial in the buſineſs, while thoſe who were really culpable, would not only paſs untouched, but very poſſibly, from ſome crooked motive of policy, might rejoice in the ill-placed effect. After very conſiderable debates, the queſtion being put near twelve at night, the motion for a committee was rejected upon a diviſion, by a majority of 224 to 106. [38. 115.]

In a few days after [Feb. 20.] Mr Fox made a motion, That it be referred to a committee to enquire into the cauſes of the ill

ill ſucceſs of his Majeſty's arms in North America, as alſo into the cauſes of the defection of the people of the province of Quebec. This gentleman introduced and ſupported his motion with his uſual great ability. He declined, he ſaid, for the preſent, to enter into any recapitulation of the cauſes of the unhappy diſpute with America. He ſhould not develope that ſyſtem, from whence the meaſures now carrying on were ſuppoſed to originate. He ſhould forbear to animadvert upon a ſyſtem, that in its principles, complexion, and every conſtituent part, gave the fulleſt and moſt unequivocal proofs, that its ultimate deſign was the total deſtruction of the conſtitution of this free form of government. Theſe were aſſertions that might be diſputed. He wiſhed to draw their attention to certain well-known, indiſputable, uncontrovertible facts. Upon the ſame principle he declined entering into any of the queſtions of right or claims on either ſide. He did not mean to controvert the expediency, practicability, nor a ſingle miniſterial ground, on which the preſent meaſures reſpecting America were taken up, purſued, or defended. He would even, for argument's ſake, allow for the preſent, that adminiſtration had acted perfectly right. But all theſe matters being admitted in their favour, and the ground cleared in all other reſpects, he would examine, from the time that coercive meaſures had been adopted, the means that had been uſed for giving them effect.

He intended to commence his propoſed enquiry at the time when the miniſter, in the month of February 1774, propoſed to the Houſe certain reſolutions, as a ground of complaint, which he followed with the Boſton-port bill. This he fixed as the æra when coercive meaſures were undeniably determined upon. He grounded his motion on the clear and poſitive aſſertion, and repeatedly acknowledged fact, that there had been miſmanagement, miſconduct, incapacity, or neglect, ſomewhere; and ſupported its propriety and neceſſity upon the ſimple alternative, that theſe faults, and their conſequent evils, muſt be imputed either to our miniſters at home, or to our military commanders abroad; either the former had planned meaſures which were impracticable, or, if practicable, had not afforded them the neceſſary ſupport; or elſe the latter had failed in carrying them into execution, and were incapable of doing their duty: in either caſe, it was fit to know where the fault lay; or if it was ſhared between them, it was abſolutely neceſſary, before it was too late, and the nation fell a victim to miſconduct and incapacity, that the Houſe ſhould be fully informed on the ſubject, and enabled to remedy the evil, by being rendered ſenſible, that the one were as unfit to deliberate and determine, as the other to perform or carry into execution.

He hoped, that as he had made ſuch conceſſions, in dropping all other ſubjects of diſpute, in order to ſimplify the immediate queſtion, and lay its objects nakedly, and abſtracted from all other matter, before them, as he had drawn a line between, and intended totally to ſeparate meaſures from men, that no independent gentleman would refuſe to concur in the enquiry. Indeed he did not ſee upon what principle any gentleman in that character could oppoſe it; and inſiſted, that if the miniſters were not conſcious of being culpable in the higheſt degree, they would rejoice at ſuch an opportunity of vindicating their conduct to the public, and of letting them ſee, that our preſent national diſgraces and misfortunes, and the miſapplication of that ſupport which they had ſo liberally given, were not owing to their ignorance, incapacity, or want of integrity. Public juſtice demanded ſuch an enquiry. The individuals on whom the obloquy reſted, were intitled to be heard in their own defence. To withhold the information neceſſary to their juſtification, would be an inſult to the nation, as well as an act of private injuſtice. None but the guilty could wiſh to evade it. None of our commanders by ſea or land, could be ſure of preſerving their honour for a ſingle moment, if they were to be buried under public diſgrace, in order to hide, protect, or palliate, the ignorance, blunders, and incapacity of others.

He entered into a ſhort but comprehenſive detail of the meaſures which had hitherto been purſued in ſupporting the plan of coercion; in which he drew in the moſt glowing colours, and placed in the ſtrongeſt lights, ſuch repreſentations of what, he ſtyled, folly in the cabinet, ignorance in office, inability in framing, and miſconduct in executing, with ſuch a ſhameful and ſervile acquieſcence in parliament,

parliament, as, he ſaid, had never before diſgraced the councils of this, or perhaps any other country. Upon the whole, he was exceedingly pointed and ſevere upon the miniſters, and little leſs ſo with reſpect to the body which he was addreſſing.

Adminiſtration ſeemed exceedingly embarraſſed in this debate, and as little united as in the former. The weight of defence, or of evading the enquiry, fell principally upon the gentlemen in inferior and leſs reſponſible office; the miniſter himſelf not riſing until the cloſe of the debate. A Noble Lord, under the deſcription we have mentioned, moved the previous queſtion early in the debate; which did not, however, leſſen its extent, or ſhorten its duration. The topics uſed in the ſpeech from the throne, furniſhed the principal arguments againſt the motion. The court-party admitted, that little had been done, great loſſes had been ſuſtained, and errors apparently of no ſmall magnitude committed. But the fault lay, where the puniſhment would finally fall, not in the miniſters, but in the rebels. The Americans had taken an unworthy and baſe advantage of the clemency, and deſire of conciliation, by which G. Britain was actuated: whilſt we, unwilling to proceed to the rigours of puniſhment, were propoſing terms of mutual advantage, and endeavouring to eſtabliſh a laſting harmony, they were ſtrengthening themſelves in rebellion, and making every preparation for war. Thus was a ſeaſon for effectual coercion unfortunately loſt; but in a manner that will ever do honour to our national character, and convince all mankind of the lenity, forbearance, and temperate juſtice of our government; whilſt it equally ſhews the incorrigible turpitude of our rebellious coloniſts.

Others ſaid, that as affairs in America were totally changed, ſo was likewiſe, and with propriety, the conduct of government. Till the ſword was drawn, conciliatory meaſures were purſued; as ſoon as that event took place, we adopted the moſt effectual means of coercion, which would be ſteadily perſevered in till the end was accompliſhed: That it was unfair, to ſtate objections againſt the conduct of adminiſtration in the early ſtages of this buſineſs, which were only applicable to a ſtate of hoſtility and open rebellion; that what was wiſdom in the former ſituation, would be treachery or madneſs in the latter. And that government was already taking the moſt effectual and deciſive meaſures, to remedy thoſe very evils which were the propoſed objects of cenſure.

It was beſides ſaid, that if ſuch an enquiry were at all neceſſary, this was not the proper ſeaſon. It ſhould be deferred till the end of the war, when there would be leiſure and opportunity for ſuch an inveſtigation. Several of thoſe who were the objects of enquiry, or whoſe teſtimony would be neceſſary, were not in the kingdom; they were now fulfilling their duty in America; ſtrenuouſly endeavouring to remedy all evils, to remove all cauſes of complaint, and to atone for paſt errors, if any had been committed. It was alſo contended, that as a change of meaſures had been announced from the throne, it would be highly diſreſpectful and improper to enter into ſuch an examination, until thoſe meaſures were tried, and the event known.

Several, however, on the ſame ſide, joined the minority in ſeverely cenſuring the conduct hitherto purſued; but congratulated themſelves on the preſent change of ſyſtem, and the happy conſequences which they expected from ſo vigorous a ſcheme of coercion. The previous queſtion being at length put, at near three in the morning, the motion was rejected upon a diviſion, by a majority of 240 to 104.

SIR, *London, March* 10.

AN opinion has long prevailed, that worming dogs [i. e. taking out of the tongue a tendinous ſubſtance of about two inches long] when young, prevents them either from running mad, or from doing miſchief if they grow mad. That it has not the firſt effect I am convinced of, from having ſeen ſeveral dogs die mad who had been wormed. But that it has the effect of preventing dogs from biting, I have ſome reaſon to believe, not only from my own obſervation for above thirty years, but from the concurrent teſtimony of all the ſportſmen I ever met with who had tried it. The proof of the fact muſt be had from the reſult of a number of experiments made with accuracy. If it be a vulgar error, it ſhould be made publicly known to be one, to prevent putting any confidence in it which may be fatal. But if it be found, that thoſe dogs who have been wormed, never attempt to bite when mad, the legiſlature ſhould take the moſt effectual meaſures to enforce ſo neceſſary a precaution.

HUMANUS.

AME-

AMERICA. [141.]

In Congreſs, January 8. 1778.

THE committee to whom the letters that paſſed between Gen. Heath and Gen. Burgoyne, and the letter from Gen. Burgoyne to Gen. Gates, were committed, brought in a report, which was taken into conſideration and agreed to, as follows.

That they have conſidered, with mature attention, the convention entered into at Saratoga, between Maj.-Gen. Gates and Lt-Gen. Burgoyne, in October laſt; and find, numbers of the cartouch-boxes, and ſeveral other articles of military accoutrements, annexed to the perſons of the non-commiſſioned officers and ſoldiers in Gen. Burgoyne's army, have not been delivered up; and that, agreeably to the ſpirit of the convention, and the technical interpretation of the word *arms*, they ought to have been delivered up. This opinion is warranted, not only by the judgement of the moſt approved writers, but by the interpretation and practice of Britiſh officers in ſimilar caſes, in the courſe of the preſent war, particularly in the capitulation of St John's on the 2d of November 1775 [37. 653.].

Your committee further report, That there are ſo many other circumſtances attending the delivery of the arms and military ſtores, which excite ſtrong ſuſpicions that the convention has not been ſtrictly complied with, on the part of Gen. Burgoyne, agreeably to its true ſpirit, and the intention of the contracting parties, and ſo many inſtances of former fraud in the conduct of our enemies, as to juſtify Congreſs, however cautious to avoid even the ſuſpicion of want of good faith, in taking every meaſure for ſecuring the performance of the convention, which did not impoſe any new condition, nor tend to delay its execution. Of this nature your committee conſider the reſolution of Congreſs of the 8th of November laſt, directing Gen. Heath "to cauſe to be taken down the name and rank of every commiſſioned officer, and the name, former place of abode, occupation, ſize, age, and deſcription, of every non-commiſſioned officer and private ſoldier, and all other perſons comprehended in the convention at Saratoga." This cannot be conſidered as impoſing any new condition, but as a meaſure naturally reſulting from the articles of convention, which the conquering party has a right to avail itſelf of, and which is ſtrictly juſtifiable, had no juſt ſuſpicion of the want of good faith in the party ſurrendering preſented itſelf. Your committee are of opinion, that the reaſons which Gen. Burgoyne adduces for refuſing a compliance, are inapplicable to the caſe: and they beg leave to obſerve, that he is totally miſtaken in his appeal to the conduct of Sir Guy Carleton and himſelf, with reſpect to the priſoners releaſed from Canada, in Auguſt 1776; for, notwithſtanding his expreſs declaration to the contrary, in his letter of the 23d of November laſt to Gen. Heath, it appears from the original liſt of the priſoners releaſed from Canada, which is herewith preſented, that the provinces, counties, and towns to which the priſoners releaſed belonged, were annexed to their reſpective names, and which, for the greater ſecurity of the conquering party, were in the hand-writing of the reſpective priſoners. Your committee, therefore, cannot but conſider Gen. Burgoyne's refuſal to give deſcriptive liſts of the non-commiſſioned officers and ſoldiers belonging to his army, when connected with his former conduct, and ill-grounded aſſertion on this occaſion, in an alarming point of view; more eſpecially when they conſider, that nine days previous to this refuſal, he had, without juſt cauſe given, declared in a letter to Gen. Gates, that the public faith plighted in the convention of Saratoga, was broken on the part of theſe States.

This charge of a breach of public faith is of a moſt ſerious nature, pregnant with alarming conſequences; and deſerves greater attention, as it is not dropped in a haſty expreſſion, dictated by ſudden paſſion, but is delivered as a deliberate act of judgement committed to writing, and ſent to the General with whom he made the convention; and, if credit is to be given to Gen. Burgoyne's account of himſelf, in his letter to Gen. Heath of the 25th of November, he cannot be conſidered "of ſo light a character, as to have acted in a ſerious matter of ſtate upon a ſudden impreſſion."

The reaſon on which he grounds this charge is, that the officers included in this convention have not, ſince their arrival in Maſſachuſet's-bay, been accommodated with quarters agreeable to their reſpective ranks. On which your committee

mittee beg leave to obſerve, that, from the ſudden and unexpected arrival of ſo large a body of troops, the concourſe of ſtrangers in and near Boſton, the devaſtation and deſtruction occaſioned by the Britiſh army, not long ſince blocked up in that town, and by the American army which beſieged them; and conſidering that the officers were not to be ſeparated from their men, and that the troops could not be quartered with equal convenience in any other place within the limits pointed out and deſcribed in the convention, as there are not a ſufficient number of barracks in any other part of that ſtate; though from theſe and many other unavoidable circumſtances, the accommodation of Gen. Burgoyne and his officers might not be ſuch as the public could wiſh or he expect, yet his charge of a breach of public faith on this account, is not warranted, either by the letter of the preliminary articles agreed on between himſelf and Gen. Gates on the 14th of October, or by the ſpirit of the convention ſigned on the 16th of the ſame month, ſince, by an examination of theſe articles, it will appear, that the ſtipulation with reſpect to the quartering of officers, was not to be conſtrued in that rigorous ſenſe in which Gen. Burgoyne affects to conſider it, but, on the contrary, that it was "agreed to, as far as circumſtances would admit."

Your committee forbear to lay any ſtreſs on the attempt of the enemy to alter the place of embarkation from the port of Boſton to that of Rhode-iſland, or the Sound, ſo contiguous to the port of New-York, which, as well as that of Rhode-iſland, is at preſent in their poſſeſſion, on the ſeemingly inadequate number of veſſels (being only twenty-ſix tranſports ſent to Rhode-iſland, as appears in a letter from Gen. Pigot to Gen. Burgoyne, dated Dec. 5.) for an army conſiſting of 5642, in a winter-voyage to Europe, or on the improbability of the enemy's being able, on ſo ſhort a notice, to victual ſuch a fleet and army for a voyage of ſuch a length; ſince the declaration of Lt-Gen. Burgoyne, *that the public faith is broke*, is of itſelf ſufficient to juſtify Congreſs in taking every meaſure for ſecuring the performance of the convention, which the laws of nations, in conſequence of this conduct, will juſtify.

Theſe facts and opinions, your committee, in a matter of ſuch high moment to the honour and ſafety of theſe States, eſteem it their duty to report ſpecially: and conſidering that Gen. Burgoyne has not fully complied with the convention at Saratoga, particularly in not delivering up the cartouch-boxes and accoutrements; that he has expreſsly, and without juſt foundation, charged theſe States with a breach of public faith; that in conſequence of this declaration, whilſt in our power, he may deem himſelf and the army under him abſolved from their compact, and may therefore have refuſed compliance with a meaſure naturally reſulting from the convention, and which only tended to render his officers and men inſecure, in caſe the convention on their part was not complied with; conſidering further, that from the diſtance between America and Great Britain, there is no opportunity of accommodating this diſpute, in any reaſonable period of time, with the ſovereign of the State in behalf of which this convention was made; and that the operations of Gen. Burgoyne's army in America would not only defeat the main object of the convention, but prove highly prejudicial to the intereſt of theſe States: your committee ſubmit the whole to the conſideration of Congreſs, in order that ſuch meaſures may be adopted as are conſiſtent with the ſafety and honour of the United States."

Whereupon Congreſs came to the following reſolutions.

Reſolved, That as many of the cartouch-boxes, and ſeveral other articles of military accoutrements annexed to the perſons of the non-commiſſioned officers and ſoldiers included in the convention of Saratoga, have not been delivered up, the convention, on the part of the Britiſh army, has not been ſtrictly complied with.

Reſolved, That the refuſal of Lt-Gen. Burgoyne to give deſcriptive liſts of the non-commiſſioned officers and privates belonging to his army, ſubſequent to his declaration, that the public faith was broke, is conſidered by Congreſs in an alarming point of view, ſince a compliance with the reſolution of Congreſs could only have been prejudicial to that army in caſe of an infraction of the convention on their part.

Reſolved, therefore, That the embarkation of Lt Gen. Burgoyne, and the army under his command, be ſuſpended till a diſtinct and explicit ratification of the convention

convention at Saratoga shall be properly notified by the court of Great Britain to Congress.

By order of Congress,

HEN. LAURENS, President.

Attest. CH. THOMSON, Sec.

A letter, dated, Head-quarters, Valley-forge, Feb. 18. 1778, from Gen. Washington, to the inhabitants of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.

"Friends, Countrymen, and Fellow-Citizens,

AFTER three campaigns, during which the brave subjects of these States have contended, not unsuccessfully, with one of the most powerful kingdoms upon earth, we now find ourselves at least upon the level with our opponents; and there is the best reason to believe, that efforts adequate to the abilities of this country would enable us speedily to conclude the war, and to secure the invaluable blessings of peace, liberty, and safety. With this view, it is in contemplation, at the opening of the next campaign, to assemble a force sufficient, not barely to cover the country from a repetition of those depredations which it hath already suffered, but also to operate offensively, and to strike a decisive blow.

In the prosecution of this object, it is to be feared, that so large an army may suffer for want of provisions. The distance between this and the Eastern States, whence considerable supplies of flesh have been hitherto drawn, will necessarily render those supplies extremely precarious; and unless the virtuous yeomanry of New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia, will exert themselves to prepare cattle for the use of the army, during the months of May, June, and July next, great difficulties may arise in the course of the campaign: it is therefore recommended to the inhabitants of those States, to put up and feed immediately as many of their stock-cattle as they can spare, so that they may be driven to this army within that period. A bountiful price will be given; and the proprietors may assure themselves, that they will render a most essential service to the illustrious cause of their country, and contribute in a great degree to shorten this bloody contest. But should there be any so insensible to the common interest, as not to exert themselves upon these generous principles, the private interest of those whose situation makes them liable to become immediate subjects to the enemy's incursions, should prompt them at least to a measure which is calculated to save their property from plunder, their families from insult, and their own persons from abuse, hopeless confinement, or perhaps a violent death.

GEORGE WASHINGTON."

A proclamation, by Gen. Howe, dated, Head-quarters in Philadelphia, March 2. 1778.

"IT being necessary, that a plentiful supply of vegetables, fresh provisions, hay, and other forage, be provided for the use of his Majesty's army, navy, and the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia, and its environs, I have thought fit, in order to encourage his Majesty's faithful subjects chearfully to exert themselves in raising the said supplies, to issue this proclamation; assuring them of all possible protection; and hereby strictly charging and commanding, that no person or persons, under any pretence whatever, presume to commit any trespass upon the lands inclosed of any other person or persons, or to break down, destroy, carry away, or in any way injure the banks, walls, hedges, or fences now standing, or hereafter to be erected, of any such inclosed lands, as they will answer it at their peril. And to the end that this proclamation may be more strictly obeyed, and the good purposes intended carried into full execution, I do hereby charge and command all officers, soldiers, and others, to seize, and deliver over to any officer commanding any part of his Majesty's forces, or to the provost-martial, all persons perpetrating any of the trespasses aforesaid, in order that such offenders may be brought to condign punishment; hereby declaring, that any neglect shall be considered and punished as a breach of orders. And I do further charge the commanding officers, and provost-martial aforesaid, from time to time, to receive into their custody all such offenders as shall be brought to them, and duly to make report thereof.

W. HOWE."

Resolutions of Congress.

"*In Congress, Nov. 22. 1777.* Resolved, That all propofals for a treaty between the King of Great Britain, or any of his commissioners, and the United

States of America, inconſiſtent with the independency of the ſaid States, or with ſuch treaties or alliances as may be formed under their authority, ſhall be rejected. Extract from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec."

"*In Congreſs, Jan.* 2. 1778. Congreſs having no further occaſion for the ſervice of Eſek Hopkins, Eſq; who, on the 22d of December 1775, was appointed Commander in Chief of the fleet fitted out by the naval committee, Reſolved, That the ſaid Eſek Hopkins, Eſq; be diſmiſſed from the ſervice of the United States. CHARLES THOMSON, Sec."

"*In Congreſs, Feb.* 14. 1778. Reſolved, That it be recommended to the legiſlatures of the ſeveral States, to paſs laws, declaring, That any perſon, his aider or abettor, who ſhall wilfully or maliciouſly burn or deſtroy, or attempt or conſpire to burn or deſtroy, any magazine of proviſions, or military or naval ſtores, belonging to the United States; or if any maſter, officer, ſeaman, marine, or other perſon, intruſted with the navigation or care of any Continental veſſel, ſhall wilfully or maliciouſly burn or deſtroy any ſuch veſſel, or ſhall wilfully betray, or voluntarily yield or deliver, or attempt to conſpire and betray, yield or deliver, ſuch veſſels to the enemies of the United States, ſuch perſon, his aider or abettor, on legal conviction, ſhall ſuffer death without benefit of clergy. Extract from the minutes.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec."

"*London, April* 27. The laſt advices (*via* France) from South Carolina, give an account, that a new form of an oath had been drawn up, and required to be taken by their late Preſident, the Hon. John Rutledge, Eſq; which he refuſed, and conſequently reſigned; the Hon. Arthur Middleton, Eſq; was then elected, who alſo refuſed; afterwards Rawlins Lowndes, Eſq; was choſen, who approved of it, and took it accordingly, amidſt the acclamations of ſeveral thouſands. It is ſaid, that the reaſon the two former gentlemen refuſed, was becauſe it gave the people more power than the conſtitution of England does to the ſubjects of this realm."

The Congreſs have reſolved, "That the flag of the Thirteen United States be Thirteen Stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be Thirteen Stars, white on a blue field, repreſenting a new conſtellation."

"*London, March* 24. *Bloomsbury.* I have juſt received from America ſome of the Continental bills of credit, or paper money: they are ſent as a curioſity.—On one denomination of the bills there is the figure of an harp, with this motto: *Majora minoribus conſonant*;"—literally, "The great and ſmall ones found together."—On another bill is impreſſed a wild boar of the foreſt ruſhing on the ſpear of the hunter; with the motto, "*Aut mors aut vita decora*;" which may be tranſlated, "Death or Liberty."—A third has an eagle on the wing, pouncing on a crane; who turns upon his back, and receives the eagle on the point of his long bill, which pierces the eagle's breaſt; the motto, "*Exitus in dubio eſt.*" This device offers an admonition to each of the contending parties.—On another we have a thorny buſh, which a hand ſeems attempting to eradicate; the hand appears to bleed, as pricked by the ſpines: motto, "*Suſtine vel abſtine*;" "Bear with me, or let me alone;" or thus, "Either ſupport or leave me."—Another has the figure of a beaver gnawing a large tree; motto, "*Perſeverando.*"—On another, we have the plant acanthus ſprouting on all ſides, under a weight placed upon it; with the motto, "*Depreſſa reſurgit*;" "Though oppreſſed, it riſes."—On another, the figure of a hand and flail over ſheaves of wheat; motto, "*Tribulatio ditat*:" "Threſhing improves it;" alluding, I ſuppoſe, to the many grains of genius and merit, in council, arts, and war, that would otherwiſe have periſhed in the huſk.—Another, a ſtorm deſcending from a black heavy cloud, motto, "*Serenabit*;" "It will clear up."—On another is ſtamped the repreſentation of a tempeſtuous ſea, a face with ſwollen cheeks, wrapt in a black cloud, appearing to blow violently on the waters, the waves high, and all rolling one way; motto, "*Vi concitata*;" which may be rendered, "Raiſed by force;" On the reverſe, inſtead of old Boreas, the North wind, uſually the moſt violent, we have a ſmooth ſea, ſun ſhining, and clear ſky; motto, "*Ceſſante vento, conquieſcemus*;" "The wind ceaſing, we ſhall be quiet."—The laſt I ſhall trouble you with is a wreath of laurel on a marble monument or altar; motto, "*Si recte facis*;" "If you act rightly." W. B.

A letter from America, dated in December laſt, ſays, "It was reſolved in Congreſs a few days ago, that all the widows and children of thoſe who die in the

the glorious cauſe of liberty, ſhall be taken care of by the States of the United Provinces, out of the confiſcated eſtates."

Boſton Independent Chronicle.

"*Boſton, Dec.* 15. The following is the examination of John Brown, (mentioned lately [90.] as a ſpy), taken from the Pennſylvania Packet of Nov. 29. viz. He ſays,

"That he left the city on the 4th of November inſtant, in conſequence of the application of Mr Thomas Willing, who ſhewed this examinant a note from Gen. Howe, requeſting to ſee him (Mr Willing): That Mr Willing told this examinant, that Gen. Howe deſired to accommodate the difference, and prevent the effuſion of human blood: That he and his brother had full power to treat with Congreſs, as Congreſs, or any men they ſhould appoint, provided they would reſcind independency: That he (Gen. Howe) deſired this to be made known to ſome member of Congreſs, and Mr Willing deſired this examinant to be the meſſenger: That he (Gen. Howe) would put them in the ſame ſtate they were in in 1763, and give them more privileges than they had ever aſked: That he did not deſire us to lay down our arms, or ceaſe from our preparations till matters were accommodated: That upon ſuch accommodation he would withdraw his fleet and army, and no ſtanding army ſhould be kept up in this country; and that the paper currency ſhould be eſtabliſhed: That ſome of theſe articles, of which the laſt was one, were added upon Mr Willing's returning to Gen. Howe, in conſequence of this examinant's heſitating to come out without them; upon which this examinant undertook the buſineſs, and engaged not to communicate his buſineſs to any perſon, until he ſhould have firſt communicated it to ſome member of Congreſs: That this examinant paſſed the Schuylkill in conſequence of a paſſport from an aide-de-camp of Gen. Howe: That he paſſed Gen. Porter in the evening, without communicating his buſineſs to him, or obtaining a paſs from him; and travelled up to the houſe of Mr Robert Morris, at Manheim; and there waited from Thurſday evening to Saturday evening following, for the arrival of Mr Morris; and when he arrived, communicated the matter firſt of all to him: That Mr Morris then called in Mr Duar, another member of Congreſs, and theſe were the firſt perſons to whom he revealed the buſineſs: That from Manheim he returned to Lancaſter, when he was firſt called before this council, and bailed by Mr Morris and Mr Duar, to go to York; and that he has hitherto communicated his buſineſs only to Mr Morris, Mr Duar, and now to the members of this Council: but that he underſtood the matter had been mentioned by Mr Morris and Mr Duar, or one of them, to other members of Congreſs at York, and was there freely ſpoken of: but this examinant was not called before the Congreſs: And that this examinant had no writing, flag, or public teſtimonial, relative to this buſineſs, from Gen. Howe, or others in Philadelphia, except what paſſed by word of mouth between him and Mr Willing, as herein before is mentioned and ſet forth. And this examinant further adds, that he recollects Mr Willing told him, that Gen. Howe aſſured him, (Mr Willing), that Great Britain would never give way to the indepence of North America; that more men would be ſent out in the ſpring; and that they would haraſs our trade ſo that we could not go on.

JOHN BROWN."

Taken before me

THOMAS WHARTON, *jun. Preſident.*

Friends and Countrymen! Be not deceived! If Gen. Howe has any thing to propoſe to Congreſs, the way is open to him through the uſual channels. He can ſend a flag of truce; he is under no neceſſity of ſending out an obſcure perſon, like a thief or a ſpy, to ſteal through our camp, without paſſports, without licence.

France and Spain are likely now to take a deciſive part in our quarrel; a few months perſeverance will eſtabliſh our liberty and independence for ever.

Publiſhed by order of Council,

JACOB HOWELL, Sec. *pro tem.*"

"*Briſtol, April* 4. This day arrived the Britannia, Capt. Furſe, from Honduras. On the 17th of February, Capt. Furſe ſpoke with the Gayton armed ſloop, Capt. Chambers, of 12 guns and 60 men, belonging to Hercules Roſs, Eſq; of Jamaica; had been out three months, and had taken twelve prizes: he gave the following account: That he had been ſix days from New Providence, which place was taken the 27th of January by an A-

merican ſloop from Charleſtown of 12 guns and 90 men. The Americans having received intelligence at Charleſtown of ſeveral prizes, which the Gayton had taken, and carried into Providence; and alſo of the ſhip Mary, belonging to Mr Roſs, who had put in there by ſtreſs of weather to refit, loaded with rum for New York, was the reaſon they ſent the ſloop to take the place: they likewiſe took five of the Gayton's prizes, and 500 barrels of rice, which they rolled into the ſea. The inhabitants gave the Americans every aſſiſtance they could wiſh. In the interim, Capt. Chambers was cruiſing about the keys, a ſmall diſtance off the iſland, not knowing what had happened. The next day going into harbour, the American colours were hoiſted on the fort: the veſſels and fort fired at him, by which his ſecond lieutenant and one man was killed, and which damaged his rigging; an 18 pound ſhot from the fort ſtruck on the main beam, and fell into the hold. The day after Capt. Chambers returned at the eaſt end, when the rebels quitted the fort, and ſlipped the cables of the five prizes, and the Mary: they ſet two of the prizes on fire, and got clear off with the reſt, leaving Capt. Chambers in poſſeſſion of the iſland."

The following article is taken from an American paper, dated, Feb. 20. 1778. tranſmitted in a letter from Bermuda. "On Thurſday, Jan. 15. a little before four o'clock in the morning, a fire was diſcovered in the bakehouſe of one Moore, at the north end of Union ſtreet, Charleſtown, South Carolina. The alarm being immediately given, a number of people, with engines, &c. were ſoon aſſembled; but the wind blowing freſh at N. N. E. drove the flames with an impetuoſity that could not be checked. The fire was ſo rapid in its progreſs, that before twelve o'clock it had entirely deſtroyed all Union ſtreet, the ſouth ſide of Queen ſtreet from Mrs Doyley's houſe to the Bay, greateſt part of Chambers's alley, all the Bay, except fifteen houſes, from Queen ſtreet to Granville's baſtion, the north ſide of Broad ſtreet from Mr Thomas Smith's houſe to the Bay, the ſouth ſide of the ſame from Mr Sarraſin's to Mr Guerard's houſe, all Gadſden's alley, Elliot ſtreet, excepting two houſes, Bedon's alley, the eaſt ſide of Church ſtreet from Broad ſtreet to Stott's alley, excepting five tenements, and the whole of Trade ſtreet to the eaſtward of Church ſtreet. The number of dwelling-houſes deſtroyed, excluſive of ſtores and outhouſes, is above 250. The quantity of merchandiſe and furniture loſt is very conſiderable. The whole loſs, by the moſt moderate computation, exceeds three millions of dollars; many are of opinion it exceeds a million Sterling. The Charleſtown-library ſociety's valuable collection of books, inſtruments, and apparatus for aſtronomy, and philoſophical obſervations and experiments, &c. &c. is almoſt entirely loſt."

A memorial is ſaid to have been preſented to Lord North, about the beginning of April, by the Weſt-India merchants, on account of an overture made to them through their agents, by the Congreſs, viz. "If the Weſt-India iſlands would preſerve their neutrality, the Congreſs would bind themſelves not to moleſt them; but otherwiſe, they ſhould be under the neceſſity of ſeizing them in the name of the United States."

On the 13th of February, Adm. Sir Peter Parker, in the Briſtol, arrived at Port-Royal, Jamaica, to take the command of the Britiſh ſhips on that ſtation, in the room of Adm. Gayton; and the latter is ſince arrived in England.

A ſurgeon in the military hoſpital at Philadelphia, writes thus, Feb. 4. "In the courſe of the laſt campaign the dyſentery prevailed much, eſpecially among the priſoners, and a good many died; though the columbo-root, ſo much boaſted of by ſome practitioners in Europe, as a cure for this diſorder, was given in many caſes. Indeed it appears not to deſerve the character it has obtained. From experience we found the tartar emetic was often employed with ſucceſs. In the month of November laſt the ſcurvy began to make its appearance among the troops which had ſuſtained the greateſt fatigue, and, as the cold weather advanced, attacked the reſt of the army. Several medicines were uſed, which mitigated the ſymptoms; but no effectual cure was found out, till a quantity of ſour krout was diſtributed to the ſcorbutics; whom it recovered in a moſt ſurpriſing manner. Since the univerſal uſe of this noble remedy, which conſtantly arrives from England, our men have been exceedingly healthy, and are very comfortably provided for in their winter quarters."

PAR-

PARLIAMENT. [150.]

On Monday, March 16. Lord Weymouth informed the Houſe of Lords, that he had orders from his Majeſty, to deſire their Lordſhips to be ſummoned for Tueſday, as a meſſage was then to be communicated from his Majeſty to the Houſe.

On Tueſday, March 17. a meſſage was delivered, to the Lords by Lord Weymouth, and to the Commons by Lord North, viz.

GEORGE R.

His Majeſty having been informed, by order of the French King, that a treaty of amity and commerce has been ſigned between the court of France and certain perſons employed by his Majeſty's revolted ſubjects in North America, has judged it neceſſary to direct, that a copy of the declaration delivered by the French ambaſſador to Lord Viſcount Weymouth be laid before the Houſe of Lords [Commons]; and at the ſame time to acquaint them, that his Majeſty has thought proper, in conſequence of this offenſive communication on the part of the court of France, to ſend orders to his ambaſſador to withdraw from that court.

His Majeſty is perſuaded, that the juſtice and good faith of his conduct towards foreign powers, and the ſincerity of his wiſhes to preſerve the tranquillity of Europe, will be acknowledged by all the world; and his Majeſty truſts, that he ſhall not ſtand reſponſible for the diſturbance of that tranquillity if he ſhould find himſelf called upon to reſent ſo unprovoked and ſo unjuſt an aggreſſion on the honour of his crown, and the eſſential intereſts of his kingdoms, contrary to the moſt ſolemn aſſurances, ſubverſive of the law of nations, and injurious to the rights of every ſovereign power in Europe.

His Majeſty, relying with the firmeſt confidence on the zealous and affectionate ſupport of his faithful people, is determined to be prepared to exert, if it ſhall become neceſſary, all the force and reſources of his kingdoms, which, he truſts, will be found adequate to repel every inſult and attack, and to maintain and uphold the power and reputation of this country.

G. R.

A copy of the paper delivered by the French ambaſſador to Lord Weymouth was given in with the royal meſſage, of which what follows is a tranſlation.

THE under-ſigned Ambaſſador of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, has received expreſs orders to make the following declaration to the court of London.

"THE United States of North America, who are in full poſſeſſion of independence, as pronounced by them on the 4th of July 1776, having propoſed to the King, to conſolidate, by a formal convention, the connection begun to be eſtabliſhed between the two nations, the reſpective plenipotentiaries have ſigned a treaty of friendſhip and commerce, deſigned to ſerve as a foundation for their mutual good correſpondence.

His Majeſty being determined to cultivate the good underſtanding ſubſiſting between France and Great Britain, by every means compatible with his dignity, and the good of his ſubjects, thinks it neceſſary to make this proceeding known to the court of London; and to declare at the ſame time, that the contracting parties have paid great attention, not to ſtipulate any excluſive advantages in favour of the French nation; and that the United States have reſerved the liberty of treating with every nation whatever, upon the ſame footing of equality and reciprocity.

In making this communication to the court of London, the King is firmly perſuaded, ſhe will find new proofs of his Majeſty's conſtant and ſincere diſpoſition for peace; and that his Britannic Majeſty, animated by the ſame ſentiments, will equally avoid every thing that may alter their good harmony; and that he will particularly take effectual meaſures to prevent the commerce between his Majeſty's ſubjects and the United States of North America from being interrupted, and to cauſe all the uſages received between commercial nations to be, in this reſpect, obſerved, and all thoſe rules which can be ſaid to ſubſiſt between the two crowns of France and Great Britain.

In this juſt confidence, the under-ſigned ambaſſador thinks it ſuperfluous to acquaint the Britiſh miniſter, that the King his maſter, being determined to protect effectually the lawful commerce of his ſubjects, and to maintain the dignity of his flag, his Majeſty has, in conſequence, taken eventual meaſures in concert with the United States of North America."

LE M. DE NOAILLES.

London, March 13. 1778.

In anſwer to the meſſage, addreſſes

were

were agreed to the ſame day, and preſented the next, that of the Lords at two o'clock and that of the Commons at three, viz.

The Lords Addreſs.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in parliament aſſembled, return our humble thanks to your Majeſty for the communication of the paper preſented to the Lord Viſcount Weymouth by the order of the French King, and for acquainting us, that in conſequence of this offenſive declaration, your Majeſty has thought proper to order your ambaſſador to withdraw from the court of France. And we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that it is with the utmoſt difficulty we can reſtrain the ſtrongeſt expreſſions of the reſentment and indignation which we feel for this unjuſt and unprovoked aggreſſion on the honour of your Majeſty's crown, and the eſſential intereſts of your kingdoms, contrary to the law of nations, and injurious to the rights and poſſeſſions of every ſovereign power in Europe.

The good faith and uprightneſs of your Majeſty's conduct towards foreign powers, and the ſincerity of your intentions to preſerve the general tranquillity, muſt be acknowledged by all the world; and your Majeſty cannot be conſidered as reſponſible for the diſturbance of this tranquillity, if you ſhould find yourſelf called upon to reſiſt the enterpriſes of that reſtleſs and dangerous ſpirit of ambition and aggrandizement which has ſo often invaded the rights and threatened the liberties of Europe.

We ſhould be wanting in our duty to your Majeſty, and to ourſelves, if we did not give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of our moſt zealous aſſiſtance and ſupport. Every ſentiment of loyalty to your Majeſty, and of love to our country, will animate us to ſtand forth in the public defence, and to promote every meaſure that ſhall be found neceſſary for enabling your Majeſty to vindicate the honour of your crown, and to protect the juſt rights and eſſential intereſts of theſe kingdoms.

The King's anſwer.

My Lords, I thank you for this loyal and affectionate addreſs. Nothing ſhall be wanting on my part that may tend to the effectual ſupport of the juſt rights of my crown, and the true intereſts of my people. Theſe great and important conſiderations ſhall ever be the immediate object of my attention.

The Commons Addreſs.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain in parliament aſſembled, return, &c. [verbatim the ſame with the two firſt paragraphs of the Lords addreſs]—liberties of Europe.

We ſhould be wanting in our duty to your Majeſty, to our conſtituents, and to ourſelves, if we did not give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of our moſt zealous aſſiſtance and ſupport: and we have the firmeſt confidence, that, in every demonſtration of loyalty to your Majeſty, and of love of their country, your faithful ſubjects will vie with each other; and that no conſiderations will divert or deter them from ſtanding forth in the public defence, and from ſuſtaining, with a ſteady perſeverance, any extraordinary burthens and expences which ſhall be found neceſſary, for enabling your Majeſty to vindicate the honour of your crown, and to protect the juſt rights and eſſential intereſts of theſe kingdoms.

The King's Anſwer.

Gentlemen, I return you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate addreſs. I make no doubt, that, aſſiſted by the advice of my parliament, and ſupported by the ſpirit of my people, I ſhall, under the divine providence, be enabled to repel every inſult on the honour of my crown, to maintain the rights of my ſubjects, and to defend all my dominions.

In the Houſe of Lords, after the royal meſſage, and the French declaration which occaſioned it, were twice read, Lord Weymouth roſe, and, after ſaying a few words reſpecting the cauſe of ſo momentous a meſſage and declaration, (only arraigning the perfidy of France, and generally excuſing adminiſtration from preſſing that court to an explanation, for fear ſhe would come to the ſame determination ſhe had now done), concluded with moving an addreſs to his Majeſty.

The Duke of Mancheſter expreſſed his ſurpriſe at what had been read, and more at the addreſs moved in conſequence of it. He arraigned the miniſters as the cauſe

cauſe of this melancholy event, and called to their recollection on what various occaſions many Noble Lords in that Houſe had told them what would at length happen. Under ſuch an adminiſtration, therefore, he ſaid, the conduct of a war was unſafe, which was repeatedly proved by their neglects, lately diſcovered (in going into the ſtate of the nation) almoſt in every department, and moſt evidently in the almoſt uniform want of ſucceſs in the preſent American war. He therefore moved an amendment, by inſerting, after the word *ſupport*, laſt paragraph, lin. 5. "whenever his Majeſty ſhall, from the regard to the honour of his crown, and the ſafety of his people, remove from his council thoſe perſons under whoſe adminiſtration no plan, civil or military, has been ſucceſsful, and the colonies, ſo valuable a part of the empire, have been loſt to the nation, and driven into connections with the court of France, and whoſe longer continuance in power we are bound to repreſent to his Majeſty, may highly endanger the ſafety of his crown, and the remaining part of his dominions."

The Marquis of Rockingham drew many alarming pictures of our imbecility as a nation, both in regard to our military ſtrength and the ſtate of our ſtocks. His Lordſhip laid a particular emphaſis on the words *freſh proofs* of his Chriſtian Majeſty's turn for preſerving peace with G. Britain, (in the French King's declaration), by obſerving, that France had been ſo uſed to inſult the dignity of this country under the preſent adminiſtration, that ſuch a declaration may be by them conſidered as freſh proofs of his turn for peace.

Lord Dudley roſe in defence of adminiſtration, by ſaying, he conſtantly voted with them upon a principle of thinking them right; and that their want of ſucceſs (admitting it) ought to be attributed to the misfortune of our armies abroad, and not to the want of good counſel at home; and hoped their Lordſhips could not think of addreſſing his Majeſty to change his miniſtry, before they were convicted of any crime.

Lord Abingdon ſaid, that this was no time for mincing matters; that it behoved every Noble Lord to ſpeak out, and tell his mind freely, and give his Majeſty ſuch advice as was neceſſary on ſuch momentous an occaſion; that for his part, he looked upon the miniſters to be the cauſe of this great event, and as ſuch would concur in the amendment propoſed for diſplacing them.

Lord Effingham ſupported Lord Abingdon, and anſwered the Noble Lord who wanted proofs of adminiſtration's bad conduct, by referring to their whole behaviour. He called out loudly for the miniſters to come forth and avow themſelves. His Lordſhip ſaid, they were, during the whole courſe of this war, very ſhy of avowing themſelves: they always ſheltered themſelves from the reſponſibility of almoſt every meaſure; one while arguing it was the King's, and another time the efficient cabinet; that this laſt phraſe was much adopted by the Noble Lord who ferried us over the Rubicon about two years ago; he would be glad therefore of ſome of this efficient cabinet now coming forward and defending their conduct; and as an encouragement for ſo doing, he thought every ſecond man of them ſhould be exculpated, provided they impeached one another.

The Duke of Richmond expreſſed his ſurpriſe, that, upon ſo very important a day, not one of the King's ſervants, although one of them came charged with a meſſage from his Majeſty, big with the voice of war, and had moved an addreſs, echoing back the ſame ſound and meaning, had riſen to ſhew the Houſe the ability of the nation to undertake a meaſure, which could not but be attended with an enormous expence, and which required much greater forces both by ſea and land than G. Britain had at preſent in her ſervice. What were the reſources? Who were the new allies? Whence was to come the money? whence the ſhips, the ſoldiers, and the ſeamen, neceſſary for ſo perilous an undertaking as a war with the Houſe of Bourbon? His Grace begged, before their Lordſhips blindly gave their votes for the addreſs, for them ſeriouſly to reflect upon the conſequences of a war with France. Their Lordſhips would do right to recollect, that they had as large eſtates, and as much intereſt in the welfare of G. Britain, as any people in the kingdom. They had a right to protect their property; and, what was a ſtill ſtronger motive, and which ought to overweigh every private conſideration in their minds, they were in truſt for the whole nation, and they were bound to protect the property of the public at large, and not to ſuffer every

every thing they could call their own, and every thing that belonged to the public, to be riſked, merely in order to keep a weak and wicked ſet of men in poſſeſſion of their places and employments. The Duke took a review of the previous ſituation of the army and navy; contending, that we had loſt by the American war, of ſeamen and ſoldiers, to the amount of 29,000 men; and as the force of our navy (the frigates) were all in America, as well as our army, that we were at preſent by no means in a condition to enter upon a new war: and if neceſſity forced us to ſuch a meaſure, we could have little proſpect of ſucceſs in it, under the conduct of the preſent miniſtry, who having fought America ſingle-handed for three years, without effecting the purpoſe for which they began the war, had ſhewn they were as totally incapable of managing the military plan, as they were inadequate to act for the nation's honour or proſperity in a civil capacity. His Grace ſolemnly proteſted, he was above being ſwayed by a deſire of obtaining the ſituation of any of the Lords in office; but he could not help being greatly ſurpriſed at the Noble Lord [Weymouth], when he talked of this being an improper moment for thoſe in office to reſign their places, and ſaid, that they muſt now conſider it as a *point of honour* to keep their employments. "Good God! (ſays his Grace) a point of honour! Do the miniſtry then conſider their places as their right? Do they imagine they hold them upon as firm a tenure as your Lordſhips hold your eſtates? The Noble Lord ſays, it is unfair to condemn miniſters before they have been heard in their own defence; it is wrong to urge them to reſign before you know whether they have been in fault. I was myſelf once in office; I was appointed, as they have been appointed, by the choice of my ſovereign: but when I loſt my employment, I talked not of a *point of honour*; I complained not of my not having been heard in my defence!"

His Grace next adverted to the material buſineſs before their Lordſhips, and blamed the miniſters exceedingly for adviſing his Majeſty to couch his meſſage in ſuch angry terms, which almoſt rendered a war with France unavoidable. He took up the meſſage from the table, and after ſaying he ſhould conſider and treat it as the Houſe always conſidered the ſpeeches from the throne, viz. as the work of the miniſter, he read it, and objected very forcibly to the warmth of the expreſſions; declaring, that, in his opinion, France had done nothing wrong in coming into ſuch a treaty as ſhe had made with America; that ſhe had patiently waited from the 5th of July 1776, to the 6th of March 1778, almoſt two years, before ſhe would come into any compact with America; that, now ſhe had found it convenient and right to do it, ſhe had done it without excluding G. Britain from a ſhare of the American commerce, and in ſuch a manner that it was not a neceſſary conſequence for a war to enſue, unleſs G. Britain provoked one. The notification of this treaty made by the French ambaſſador alſo had not one angry word in it; there was no neceſſity therefore for us to commence a war: the nation was in circumſtances every way unfit for ſuch an undertaking, and if peace could be preſerved without an injury to the honour of G. Britain, it was an act of madneſs to go to war. He ſaid, had he been to advite his Majeſty, he certainly would have adviſed him merely to ſtate the fact to parliament, and not by any means to have done it in the language of paſſion, in the language of reſentment. As the matter ſtood, he thought the wiſeſt way would be, not to echo back the meſſage, but in the addreſs merely to ſay, "their Lordſhips were on all occaſions ready to ſupport the honour and dignity of the crown."

After endeavouring to ſhew the neceſſity of preſerving this country from a foreign war, if poſſible, with honour, his Grace adviſed their Lordſhips by all means to withdraw their armies from America, and court her alliance; and the beſt ſtep towards effecting the latter purpoſe, he declared, he conceived to be an immediate declaration of her independency. He had thought, he ſaid, very much lately on this ſubject; and he had in his pocket a matter which he had carried about him for above a week paſt, and which he had endeavoured to finiſh, and render more perfect; that was, a bill to explain and render more effectual the act lately paſſed, appointing commiſſioners to treat with America. As the bill was ſhort, he would read it to their Lordſhips as a part of his ſpeech, and would afterwards leave it upon the table for the peruſal and conſideration of ſuch of the Houſe as choſe to advert to it.

[His Grace then read his bill; the purport

purport of it was, to empower and require the commiſſioners, in caſe they found America ſtrenuous to ſupport her independency, to acknowledge it, and to come to certain other terms advantageous to America, but which were only to ſtand good, if ratified afterwards by the parliament of G. Britain.]

His Grace next took notice of the alarming ſtate of the funds; ſhewing, that the miniſter's ſubſcription, which he had boaſted of in the lower houſe of parliament as remarkably beneficial to the lenders, had, on Monday, been at four per cent. diſcount, and was that day at more than three per cent. diſcount; and the three per cents, at 60, 7 8ths. After dwelling for ſome time on this circumſtance, as a proof of the want of credit of adminiſtration, his Grace adverted to the terms of the loans for the three laſt years of the late war; reminding their Lordſhips, that the firſt of the three loans was raiſed at about three per cent. intereſt; the ſecond, at a little better than four per cent. intereſt; and the third at not quite five.

Having gone through this, the Duke reverted to what had fallen from one of the Noble Lords who had ſpoken in favour of the addreſs; declaring, that it was ſcandalous in miniſters and their friends to throw the blame upon brave officers, who had done every thing that human valour could atchieve, in the ſervice of their country; that the blame was aſcribeable to their weak and evil plans, and not to any of the generals who had been employed. He ſaid, he expected that a Noble Lord in his eye [Lord Derby] would riſe, and reſcue Sir William Howe, whom he profeſſed to hold his friend, from the attack that had been made on him. The Duke ſaid, adminiſtration had of late uſed every effort to run down and depreciate that general: A ſcribbler [101.] had written and diſſeminated a cenſure of that officer's conduct, as long ago as his landing on Long iſland; the ſame ſcribbler, he did not doubt, who had been employed by adminiſtration at the concluſion of laſt war, to prove that G. Britain was in danger of being ruined by the glorious advantages ſhe had gained in the courſe of that ſucceſsful war. His Grace, before he concluded, repeated his accuſations of the miniſtry; declaring, that if his own brother had acted in conjunction with the preſent men in office, for the laſt ten years, he would move for his being diſcharged, and for an inquiry into his conduct. He ſaid further, that the preſent addreſs was as ill adviſed a meaſure as any that had been adopted; and ended his ſpeech with adviſing thoſe in office to ſave the nation from a war with France, if it could be done with honour.

The Earl of Derby declared, that ſo far was he from thinking an inquiry into the conduct of the King's ſervants during the war a wrong meaſure, he entertained a very different opinion, and thought their conduct ought to be inquired into; but that this was by no means the proper time for that inquiry. With regard to the arguments which had been uſed in the debate, whether we ſhould go to war or preſerve peace, they were, in his opinion, unneceſſary; neither of thoſe points being the queſtion before the Houſe. The French notification was in itſelf a declaration of war; it put the matter paſt a debate; it carried with it proof of France being the aggreſſor, of France having already begun the war; the queſtion therefore now was, How were we to carry it on? Would their Lordſhips aſſiſt his Majeſty in ſupporting the honour and dignity of his crown, and the intereſts of the nation, or would they not? The Earl ſaid, he had not a doubt but their Lordſhips would readily anſwer in the affirmative; and therefore he ſhould not trouble them with his reaſons for ſupporting the addreſs without the amendment.

The Biſhop of Oxford took notice of a reproach thrown out in the lower houſe againſt the bench of biſhops, intimating, that they had, in the conteſt with America, tinged their lawn with blood. After repelling this charge, the Rt Rev. Prelate contended, that law and juſtice ſanctified the war now in agitation before their Lordſhips. And, with reſpect to reſources, he inſiſted, that if our nobility would condeſcend to live in a ſtyle of leſs extravagance, the ſavings that could be made in their preſent profuſe way of living, and particularly in the article of gaming, would furniſh out a navy that could ſet the univerſe at defiance. His Lordſhip recurred to the origin of the American war; and ſaid, though *repreſentation* and *taxation* had been denied to be co-relative terms, he had, after mature thinking, found out a propoſition that was co-relative, and that was *taxation* and *protection*; the former not to be

paid as the price of the latter, but to be agreed to as the means of enabling this country to afford the latter. The American war, he ſaid, reſted upon two points; the juſtice and policy of the war; two points that he had ſeen repeatedly run into each other: if the firſt was admitted, the ſecond was out of the queſtion. Having contended, that the war was founded in juſtice, the Biſhop proceeded to an examination of the queſtion before their Lordſhips, and firſt proved, that there was an inſult offered to G. Britain by the French in their notification of the treaty; but, he remarked, that an inſult was not a ſufficient ground to go to war upon: after which he proceeded to ſhew, that there were ſtill ſtronger reaſons for war; France, who had long been ſuſpected, now ſtood convicted of having, during our conteſt with America, ſupported the Americans, and been the means of putting this country to ſo much expence. His Grace urged other arguments to prove the preſſing neceſſity of invigorating the hands of government at this critical period, and enabling the King and his miniſters to proſecute the war in ſuch a manner as was moſt likely to render it effectual.

Lord Shelburne, after arguing that the declaration delivered by the French ambaſſador was of ſuch a nature as to render it almoſt impoſſible to avoid a war, aſked how we were prepared for ſuch an event? Without fleets, without armies, without allies, and without reſources, what was to be done? Miniſters had not a moment to loſe: they muſt inſtantly ſet about a thorough reform; they muſt not only get a ſufficient force ready to begin the war, but by reviving the ſpirit of the conſtitution, by dropping every interior, petty, clerklike ſyſtem of government, by rendering the operations and plans of the cabinet obvious, clear, and tranſparent, ſo that all who run might read, they muſt regain the confidence of the people, without which they could neither proſecute the war with vigour, nor hope to end it with ſucceſs and with honour. Above all things he adviſed them to drop the ſcandalous exertion of undue influence, to relieve the people from the burden of corruption, and to advert to an expreſſion, a beautiful expreſſion, which he had met with in the parliamentary debates of former periods, and which fell from the mouth of a Noble member of that Houſe the [Marquis of Halifax], viz. "That every weight taken off the nation gave her wings." Thus by lightening the preſſure upon the people, they would have power to exert themſelves, their ancient ſpirit would revive, and entering into the war with chearfulneſs and alacrity, they would purſue it with vigour. The bank of England muſt be conſidered; every poſſible means muſt be exerted to aſſiſt the bank, and keep up public credit. Sleeping and waking he had it ever in his mind, and Dr Price, with whom he had frequently converſed on the ſubject, had convinced him of the urgent neceſſity of making the bank a primary object of attention and ſupport.

His Lordſhip next pointed out the difference between men fighting for liberty and property, and the ſlaves of an abſolute monarchy, fighting for their tyrant, and in a cauſe in which they had no intereſt. As a proof of the obſervations he made on this head, he mentioned his having been in France two years and a half ago; when having occaſion to ferry over the river (Vilaine) at the mouth of which Lord Hawke had beat the French fleet [21. 590.], he had a converſation with ſeveral of the people of the country, in which he aſked them, if (as they could from a hill command a view of the action) they did not feel much pain at ſeeing the fleet of France beat by the fleet of England? when they replied, "None at all; it was equal to them which gained the victory."

His Lordſhip complained of the looſe, corrupt, and irregular ſtate of matters regarding the conſtitution; ſhewing, that the King's name was reviled with the moſt indecent familiarity in every newſpaper; that parliament had loſt the power of maintaining any of its particular privileges; that the miniſtry was but a name; that our fleets were in a wretched ſtate, our army as bad, our reſources almoſt drained, and the people at large loſt in diſſipation and licentiouſneſs of every kind. He adviſed an immediate and univerſal reform; a deep and determined rooting out of every principle of corruption, of undue influence, and a revival of the ſpirit of the conſtitution. He ſaid, he would not cant, nor did he mean to preach to their Lordſhips, for that was the office of the clergy: not that he thought the Rt Rev. Lord who had ſpoke in the preſent debate, had given a good anſwer to the charge of the

bench

bench being clothed in blood, by preaching up a ſpirit of unanimity for war. The Rt Rev. Lord had mentioned one ſpecies of reſource; he would beg leave to recommend another, and that was, to lop off thoſe drones of ſociety, the church-beneſices. He did not, he ſaid, here allude to the bench; he meant only the golden prebends, and thoſe church-officers, who, having no parochial connection, lived a life of idleneſs and inutility; who gained great wealth without doing any ſervice to ſociety.

His Lordſhip took occaſion to throw out ſome exceeding ſevere remarks applicable to a certain Law Lord. He ſaid, when he was in France, he had a long converſation with a churchman, and, among other matters, politics came to be the topic; when the prieſt declared, that his profeſſion was of all others the beſt for a ſtateſman; for that whenever a churchman had by his intrigues and adventures as a politician, put the kingdom in danger, and thrown the public concerns into confuſion, he had nothing to do but to retire to his church, content himſelf with the parade that ſituation afforded, and lie ſnug till public matters having taken a different turn, and recovered their former proſperous condition, it was ſafe for him again to ſtep forward, and once more become the ſtate-pilot. His Lordſhip ſaid, he feared another profeſſion in this country followed the ſame idea, and practiſed exactly what the French churchman had mentioned to him; he meant the law. Were our judges ſolely employed in explaining the ſtatutes, and diſtributing juſtice in the courts below? Had no one of them buſied himſelf more in political projects than in the duties of his profeſſion? In his opinion the office of a judge was a moſt important one, and ſo weighty was the duty, that no other avocation ſhould be ſuffered to interfere with it; leaſt of all, that of directing the helm of government. If judges could with ſafety turn ſtate Quixotes, and from motives of vanity, and the hopes of aggrandizing their names, indulge themſelves in mad ſchemes and abſurd projects, till finding the ruin of their country to be in proſpect, as the conſequence of their politics, they thought it neceſſary to ſlip their necks out of the collar, and retire to their courts, he ſhould be one to ſay, that the act which rendered the judges no longer dependent on the crown, and which had been regarded as a praiſeworthy ſtatute, was the moſt pernicious and fatal to the eſſential intereſts of the people that ever paſſed in this country.

His Lordſhip concluded a very long ſpeech with declaring, that he would neither vote for the addreſs nor for the amendment.

The Duke of Richmond roſe to ſhew, that although the Noble Lord who ſpoke laſt, for whoſe ſentiments he had the higheſt deference, differed from him in opinion, as to the meaſures proper to be purſued by this country, in conſequence of the French miniſter's notification, that they nevertheleſs agreed in many, and indeed moſt of the points on which they had given their opinions, and in particular with regard to the miſchievous extent of the prerogative of the crown, under that ſpecious and ſtill more dangerous exertion, the exertion of court-influence: A ſyſtem of corruption which called for the immediate attention of their Lordſhips, and ought to be extirpated, if they ſeriouſly wiſhed to revive the ſpirit of the conſtitution, and to reſtore the nation to its ancient luſtre. Let their Lordſhips look round their own Houſe, and they would ſee there was a majority of placemen! Let their Lordſhips recollect how very rare a circumſtance it was for any Noble Lord who held a place to differ from the King's ſervants ſo far as to with-hold a vote from any motion of their offering! He meant no perſonal reflection by that remark, though it was a truth of ſuch ſerious importance, that he could not but call their Lordſhips attention to it.

The Noble Lord who ſpoke laſt, his Grace obſerved, had not entirely diſſented from him reſpecting the propriety of going to war immediately; the Noble Lord had ſaid, we had no fleet, no army, no allies, and no reſources, which were ſo many invincible arguments for the neceſſity of our preſerving peace. If, however, the miniſtry were determined to make war, let them, for God's ſake, attend to what a Noble Viſcount [Townſhend] had ſo well ſaid in a former debate. Let them attend to Ireland. Let them recollect the preſent defenceleſs ſtate of that country, and the injurious oppreſſions under which ſhe laboured. Let them recollect, that in all probability Ireland would be the ſcene of invaſion, if any were attempted by our enemies: and then for a moment conſider how ne-

ceſſary it was immediately to take meaſures for the preſervation of that country, and in future to put Ireland upon a footing more honourable to G. Britain, and more happy and more comfortable to herſelf.

About nine o'clock the Lord Chancellor put the queſtion on the amendment; and the numbers were, Contents 34, Proxies 2; Not contents 84, Proxies 16.

A ſhort converſation then took place between Lord Ravenſworth and Lord Weymouth; at the concluſion of which, the queſtion was put, Whether the addreſs ſhould be agreed to, or Not? and the numbers were, Contents 65, Not contents 24.

In the Houſe of Commons, after Lord North had delivered the royal meſſage, Mr Baker moved the diſmiſſion of the miniſters, as an amendment; which produced a very long debate, of the ſame nature and ſubſtance as that in the Houſe of Lords. It would therefore be intruding on our readers patience to repeat arguments virtually the ſame, though differently habited.

Lord North painted the ſituation of this country as much more comfortable than ſome perſons in oppoſition had held out. His Lordſhip ſaid, our navy was in a much better condition than it had been in at the commencement of moſt of the late wars; that the new levies were nearly filled; that we ſhould ſpeedily have 30,000 men in arms; which, added to the militia, who would forthwith be embodied, would be an ample force for the internal ſafety of the kingdom. His Lordſhip further ſaid, that he had, ſince he had ſat that day in the Houſe, received intelligence that every ſhilling of the firſt depoſit on the new ſubſcription had been paid.

The Houſe broke up at half an hour paſt two o'clock in the morning; when, on a diviſion, there appeared for the queſtion 268, againſt it 113.

On the 23d of March a meſſage was delivered to the Lords by Lord Weymouth, and to the Commons by Lord North, viz.

"GEORGE R.

THE French King having concluded a treaty of amity and commerce with his Majeſty's revolted ſubjects in North America, and his Majeſty having received advice, that the warlike preparations in France become every day more conſiderable; his Majeſty thinks, that, in this critical conjuncture, he ſhould not act conſiſtently with the care and concern which he always feels for his faithful people, if he omitted any means in his power that may contribute to their defence. Therefore, in purſuance of the acts of parliament, enabling his Majeſty to call out and aſſemble the militia, in the caſes therein mentioned, his Majeſty has thought it right to make this communication to the Houſe of Lords [Commons]; to the end that his Majeſty may, if he ſhall think proper, cauſe the militia to be drawn out and embodied, and to march as occaſion ſhall require.

G. R."

After this meſſage was read by Mr Speaker, the Commons reſolved, *nem. con.* That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to return his Majeſty the humble thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage; and to expreſs the juſt ſenſe we have of his Majeſty's goodneſs, and of his paternal care of his people, in providing every means in his power that may tend to their defence, and in his intention to call out and aſſemble the militia, if it ſhall be found neceſſary for that purpoſe.

A ſimilar reſolution paſſed in the Houſe of Lords, alſo *nem. con.*—The Lords addreſs was ordered to be preſented by the Lords with white ſtaves, and that of the Commons by ſuch members as were of the privy council.

A cure for Canine Madneſs.

Mr Buchez, in a work, intitled, *An hiſtorical treatiſe of Plants growing in Lorraine and the three Biſhopricks*, affirms, that ſeveral ſucceſsful trials have aſcertained the efficacy of vinegar againſt the ill effects ariſing from the bite of mad dogs, when it is given in the quantity of a pound each day, divided into three doſes; one to be taken in the morning, another at noon, and the third in the evening. The diſcovery of this quality of vinegar was made accidentally at Udina in Trioul, a province belonging to Venice, by an inhabitant of that town, who having been ſeized with canine madneſs, was cured by drinking ſome vinegar by miſtake, inſtead of a medicine that had been prepared for him.

See Mr Keir's tranſlation of the Chymical Dictonary, vol. 3. in octavo, under the article *Vinegar*.

NEW

NEW BOOKS. [156.]

Bp Hurd's charge to the clergy of his diocese, that of Litchfield and Coventry, at his primary visitation in 1775 *and* 1776. 19 *pp.* 8*vo.*

EXTRACTS.

— When our bleſſed Lord and Maſter ſent forth his favoured ſervants to labour in that miniſtry to which he had called them, he addreſſed them in theſe memorable words: *I have choſen and ordained you,* THAT YE SHOULD GO AND BRING FORTH FRUIT, AND THAT YOUR FRUIT SHOULD REMAIN, John xv. 16. 'That ye may go with this commiſſion to plant my doctrine in the world; and that, by your cultivation of it, it may take ſuch root as to bring forth a fruitful harveſt of believers, and continue to do ſo through all ages.'

In theſe affecting words of our Divine Maſter (the more affecting, becauſe among the laſt that were uttered by him) the *apoſtles* firſt, and after them *all* ſucceeding miniſters of the goſpel, are called upon to bring forth,

1. The fruit of a RIGHT FAITH in their hearers, as reſulting from the ſoundneſs of their doctrine; 2. The fruit of PIETY in their flocks, in conſequence of a diligent miniſtration in all the offices of their ſacred function; and 3. The fruit of CHARITY in their Chriſtian brethren, as ſpringing out of their godly exhortations and blameleſs examples. —

[For the two firſt fruits we refer to the pamphlet.]

The laſt, and beſt fruit, we are to produce, is the fruit of CHARITY, or a good life, in thoſe committed to our charge, which is more eſpecially cultivated and matured by our *godly exhortations* and *blameleſs examples.*

1. As to our public exhortations, and diſcourſes from the pulpit, ſuch an audience as this cannot want to be inſtructed in the manner of preparing them. Permit me only to ſay, "*That your ſermons cannot well be too plain, and that they ought to be wholly Chriſtian.*"

The word of God is deſigned for the edification of all ſorts and degrees among us, and ſhould be ſo diſpenſed as to reach the hearts and underſtandings of all. And I need not ſay to you who hear me, that to frame a diſcourſe in this manner, as it is the uſefulleſt way of preaching, ſo it will afford full ſcope and exerciſe for all the talents which the ableſt of us may poſſeſs.

But, further, you will allow me to obſerve, that the topics and principles, on which we form our diſcourſes, muſt be *wholly Chriſtian.* I do not mean to exclude natural reaſon from our public exhortations, but to employ it in giving force to thoſe beſt and moſt efficacious arguments for a good life which the goſpel ſupplies. I would only ſay, that we are not to preach morality in excluſion of Chriſtianity: for that would be to incur the guilt of *preaching ourſelves,* and not *Jeſus Chriſt.*

The various motives to virtue and all goodneſs, which may be drawn from the great doctrines of the Chriſtian revelation, as they are infinitely more perſuaſive and affecting than all others; ſo they ſhould be conſtantly and earneſtly impreſſed on our hearers. To live, as becometh the goſpel, is the duty of Chriſtians; and therefore to preach that goſpel, muſt be the proper duty of Chriſtian miniſters.

For that *other* requiſite, of a *good example,* the caſe is too plain to require more than one word. Our bleſſed Maſter has told us, that we are *the ſalt of the earth:* and we remember what he pronounces of that ſalt, *when it hath loſt its ſavour.* This warning may ſuffice to guard the miniſter of the word from groſs vice and immorality; but much more is expected from him. He is to *excell* in all virtue, and in ſuch ſort as to make it amiable in the eyes of men. He is to take care, that even *his good be not evil-ſpoken of,* and that *the miniſtry be not blamed.* For there are certain decencies, which muſt be ranked by us in the place of virtues. To be wanting in *theſe,* is to ſcandalize the brethren, and diſhonour ourſelves. Our profeſſion is ſo ſacred, that even our Chriſtian liberty muſt be abridged on many occaſions; and we muſt deny ourſelves an *innocent* amuſement, when we have reaſon to conclude that others will take offence at it.

LONDON.

Religion, Morality, Controverſy, &c.

A philoſophical and religious dialogue in the ſhades between Mr Hume and Dr Dodd: with notes by the editor. 2 s. *Hooper and Davis* —— Suggeſts many pertinent obſervations and reflections, and expreſſes them in an agreeable ſtyle. His profeſſed intention is, to furniſh a ſlight antidote againſt the pernicious influence of Mr Hume's opinions, and of Dr Dodd's morals. M.

The Lord's controverſy with a guilty nation. Two ſermons. By the Rev. Richard

&c

dle Courcy, vicar of St Alkmond's, Shrewſbury. 1 s. *Robinſon, &c.* —— One of your ſtaunch, orthodox divines: but his zeal is not altogether without knowledge; for he, undoubtedly, poſſeſſes conſiderable abilities. M.

A ſermon preached at St Peter's, Colcheſter, June 24 1777, being the feſtival of St John the Baptiſt. Before the provincial grand maſter, and the provincial grand lodge of the moſt ancient and honourable ſociety of Free and Accepted Maſons of Eſſex. By the Rev. William Martin Leake, LL. B. late of St Peter's college, Cambridge. 1 s. *Sewel.* —— This Rev. Maſon begins with praying for thoſe who ſmile at his fraternity; and it is, therefore, to be hoped, they may continue that wicked practice without ſpiritual dread or fear. He ſets out with repreſenting benevolence as the great principle by which his ſociety is actuated: but ill does he practiſe what he preaches; for no ſooner has he announced this than he begins to abuſe the poor man after God's own heart. The reaſon of this is obvious. That prince, not remarkable for his maſonry, contented himſelf with buying a barn of Araunah the Jebuſite, which had been built probably before he was born. Solomon he praiſes to thoſe ſkies, to which, however, only his temple aſpired; but then Solomon belonged to the Grand Provincial Lodge, was a mighty builder, and contracted with King Hiram for an hundred thouſand load of timber, and other materials. Another Hiram, the workman, the Preacher calls "the widow's ſon of the tribe of Naphtali;" and adds, "with whoſe private hiſtory they only who are Maſters among us are acquainted." What abſurd affectation of myſtery, as if it were neceſſary to be a Maſter-Maſon to come at the private hiſtory of Hiram! or as if the hiſtory of that workman lay more obvious to any individual of this ſtrange ſociety, than it does to the loweſt commentator on the Bible! M.

Remarks on the ancient and preſent ſtate of the Congregational churches of Norfolk and Suffolk. With ſome ſtrictures on the account given of this denomination in general, in the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory of the celebrated Moſheim. By a Suffolk miniſter. 1 s. 6 d. *Buckland, &c.* —— A ſenſible pamphlet, written by one who well underſtands the ſubject, and wiſhes to have an acquaintance with it more generally diffuſed. M.

A ſeries of dialogues, addreſſed to the Jews, in the 35th jubilee of their diſperſion and captivity. In theſe dialogues, *Jeſus Chriſt* is proved to be that *Man-child* revealed to John, Rev. xii. 1—5. And that he is the ſame *Son of Man (Bar Enoſh)* whom Daniel ſees brought in the clouds of heaven to the throne of the Ancient of Days, chap. vii. 13. That he is called *Jeſus of Nazareth* under the goſpel, becauſe he was ſeparated, and kept hid as it were, many ages before he came into fleſh, to redeem the children of his father and mother, Adam, under the fall. 1 s. *Wilkie, &c.* —— This author appears to be a man of reading, eſpecially in a particular branch. His turn is for myſticiſm, recondite, and interior meanings, &c. M.

A ſermon, preached, July 15. 1777, in the cathedral church of Carliſle, at the viſitation of the Rt Rev. Edmund, Lord Biſhop of Carliſle. By William Paley, M. A. 1 s. *White.*

If we would enter into the true ſpirit and meaning of the ſacred writers, we muſt abſtract our thoughts from the cuſtoms, manners, and opinions, of the preſent æra; and ſuppoſe ourſelves tranſlated into the country, and age, in which our Saviour and his apoſtles lived; we muſt conſider the circumſtances to which they allude, the irregularities they endeavour to reform, the diſputes they propoſe to adjuſt, and the peculiar exigencies of thoſe times. There are many things which relate to the diſciples, the apoſtles, or the primitive churches, which ought not to be extended to Chriſtians in general; and perſons of this age are to apply theſe particulars to themſelves, as far as their circumſtances are ſimilar, but no farther.

This, or ſomething like this, ſhould certainly be obſerved as a fundamental rule in explaining the ſcripture. For more abſurdities perhaps have been introduced into ſyſtems of divinity by a contrary ſcheme of interpretation, than by the neglect of any other canon which commentators have ever preſcribed.

The ingenious author of this diſcourſe has very judiciouſly pointed out the error of thoſe 'who expect to find, in the preſent circumſtances of Chriſtianity, ſomething anſwering to every appellation and expreſſion which occur in ſcripture;' or, in other words, the error of thoſe, who apply to the perſonal condition of Chriſtians at this day, thoſe titles, phraſes, propoſitions, and arguments, which belong ſolely to the ſituation of Chriſtianity at its firſt inſtitution.

Ignorant readers, or enthuſiaſts, have groſsly miſapplied many paſſages of ſcripture relative to election, predeſtination, regeneration, &c. by not knowing, or not attending to the circumſtances of the apoſtolic age, and the original import of theſe words. Our author therefore has laid open the ſources of their miſtakes.

In the New Teſtament, baptiſm is frequently repreſented as procuring ſalvation, and remiſſion of ſins, Mark xvi. 16.; Acts ii. 38. xxii. 16.; Tit. iii. 5. Our author aſſigns the reaſon: When the ſcriptures were written,

written, none were baptized but converts, and their converſion was ſuppoſed to be the effect of a ſincere conviction. But, he obſerves, 'when we come to ſpeak of the baptiſm which obtains in moſt Chriſtian churches at preſent, where no converſion is ſuppoſed, or poſſible, theſe expreſſions muſt be applied with extreme qualification and reſerve.'

The firſt Chriſtians, conſidered collectively as a body, were ſet apart for a more glorious diſpenſation, and diſtinguiſhed by a ſuperior purity of life. In this view, and in oppoſition to the unbelieving world, they were ſtyled *elect*, *called*, *ſaints*, *brethren in Chriſt*, &c. 'The application (ſays this writer) of ſuch phraſes to the whole body of Chriſtians is now become obſcure; partly, becauſe they are no longer ſuch a ſmall, united ſociety; and partly, becauſe the Heathen world, with whom they were compared, and to which compariſon theſe phraſes relate, is now ceaſed, or is removed from our obſervation. We may plainly ſubſtitute the terms *convert* or *converted* for the ſtrongeſt of theſe phraſes, without any alteration of the author's meaning.' 1 Cor. vi. 1. vii. 18.; 1 Pet. v. 13.; Rom. xvi. 7.

In oppoſition to the Jews, who were offended by the preaching of the goſpel to the Gentiles, St Paul maintains, that it was God's intention, from the firſt, to ſubſtitute, at a fit ſeaſon, into the place of the rejected Iſraelites, a ſociety of men, taken indifferently out of all nations, and admitted to be the people of God upon more comprehenſive terms. This ſcheme, as our author obſerves, was what God is ſaid to have *foreknown*, and *predeſtinated*; was the *eternal purpoſe* which he purpoſed in Chriſt Jeſus; and theſe phraſes are therefore improperly applied to the final deſtiny of individuals.

'The converſion of a grown perſon from Heatheniſm to Chriſtianity, which is the caſe of the converſion commonly intended in the Epiſtles, was a change of which we have now no juſt conception. It was a new name, a new language, a new ſociety; a new faith, a new hope; a new object of worſhip; a new rule of life; a hiſtory was diſcloſed full of diſcovery and ſurpriſe; a proſpect of futurity was unfolded beyond imagination awful and auguſt. This, accompanied with the pardon of every former ſin, was ſuch an æra in a man's life, ſo remarkable a period in his recollection, ſuch a revolution of every thing that was moſt important in him, as might well admit of thoſe ſtrong figures, and ſignificant alluſions, by which it is deſcribed in ſcripture; it was regeneration, a new birth, a new creation,' &c. — There is nothing in the preſent circumſtances of Chriſtianity to which theſe phraſes are applicable.

By theſe examples and arguments, of which we have only given an imperfect abſtract, the author has clearly ſhewn the neceſſity of a careful attention to the variation of times and circumſtances in the uſe and application of ſcripture-language. C.

Hiſtory, Law, Politics, &c.

The Orations of Lyſias and Iſocrates, tranſlated from the Greek: with ſome account of their lives; and a diſcourſe on the hiſtory, manners, and character of the Greeks, from the concluſion of the Peloponneſian war, to the battle of Chæronea. By John Gillies, LL. D. 18 s. boards. *Murray.* — "The orations of Iſocrates," ſays Dr Gillies, "furniſh us with a general account of the hiſtory and political intereſts of the Greeks: the pleadings of Lyſias contain a curious detail of their domeſtic manners and internal œconomy. The works of the two orators together, exhibit an intereſting picture, not only of the foreign wars and negociations, but of the private lives and behaviour of this celebrated nation. Taken ſeparately, their writings are imperfect; when combined, they afford a ſyſtem of information equally extenſive and ſatisfactory." — From this peculiarity, the tranſlator preſents his authors under a new arrangement, which appears to be both philoſophical and elegant. Diſregarding the order of time in which the ſeveral orations were delivered, and paying no attention to the claſſes into which the critics have divided them, he places them in a ſeries correſponding to the chain of the Grecian hiſtory. But leſt the colouring of eloquence ſhould obſcure the truth, he has prefixed to the orations which he has tranſlated, the deſcriptions which were neceſſary to authenticate the public tranſactions, and to caſt a juſt light on the interior government and manners of the Greeks. — For the ſake, alſo, of greater perſpicuity, and that the ſtory of the Greeks might appear in a full and inſtructive picture, ſo far as he is ſolicitous to deſcribe their affairs, he has furniſhed a preliminary diſſertation. — "I have divided (ſays he) the preliminary diſcourſe into two parts; the firſt including the hiſtory of the public tranſactions, the ſecond containing an account of the private lives and manners of the Greeks. To the whole is prefixed an introduction; in which I have attempted to aſcertain with preciſion the extent and populouſneſs, as well as the power, wealth, and reſources, of the principal Grecian republics." — Dr Gillies appears in the different characters of Author and Tranſlator; and in theſe diſtinct capacities, we apprehend, he cannot fail of receiving the approbation of the public. — The taſk of tranſlation, beſide being laborious, is difficult from its nicety.

It

It is not enough to give the meaning of the author: his ſpirit and manner muſt be tranſfuſed. The patience of attending with minuteneſs to a dead language, the taſte to diſcover character and beauties, the power of imitation, and the poſſeſſion of a various and fortunate phraſeology in the Engliſh idiom, are gifts and qualifications which are far from being common. — Profoundly verſant in the Greek tongue, Dr Gillies has given the ſentiments of Lyſias and Iſocrates with an exactneſs which was hardly to be expected in a firſt attempt to introduce theſe authors in an Engliſh dreſs. Skilled to catch their peculiarities, he has been able to preſerve their diſtinctive characters; and, happy in his knowledge of the Engliſh language, he has generally expreſſed himſelf with a perſpicuity, a correctneſs, and an elegance, to which moſt authors fancy themſelves equal, and which ſo few, upon trial, can attain. M.

Memoirs of eminently pious women, who were ornaments to their ſex, bleſſings to their families, and edifying examples to the church and world By Thomas Gibbons, D. D. 2 vols. 12 s. *Buckland.* —— It is the laudable intention of the author of theſe memoirs, to exhibit before the females of the preſent age, a ſeries of examples of piety, and of domeſtic and perſonal virtues, which may ſerve to check the prevailing ſpirit of frivolity and diſſipation, and reſtore that female character which formerly rendered our Britiſh matrons ſo reſpectable. In the pictures here drawn there are many ſtriking and beautiful features, which ought to be contemplated with pleaſure, and may be copied with advantage by females of every rank. M.

A philoſophical ſurvey of the ſouth of Ireland, in a ſeries of letters to John Watkinſon, M. D. 6 s. boards. *Cadell.*——Theſe Letters begin with an account of the city of Dublin, which the author concludes to be in magnitude nearer a fourth than a fifth of that of London —They contain, beſides other information, many pertinent remarks on the preſent ſtate of Ireland, and a view of the advantages which the author ſuppoſes would reſult from the commercial and political union of that kingdom with G. Britain C.

A hiſtory of the late revolution in Sweden; containing an account of the tranſactions of the three laſt diets in that country; preceded by a ſhort abſtract of the Swediſh hiſtory, ſo far as was neceſſary to lay open the true cauſes of that remarkable event. By Charles Francis Sheridan, Eſq; of Lincoln's-inn, and ſecretary to the Britiſh envoy in Sweden at the time of the late revolution. 5 s. ſewed. *Dilly.* —— Various are the changes which the government of Sweden has undergone, but in none of thoſe was the deſign ſo well planned, or carried into execution with ſo amazing a celerity, as in that which took place in 1772. The author of the Hiſtory now before us inveſtigates with great judgement the cauſes that gave riſe to this event, by tracing the Swediſh conſtitution through its preceding periods; firſt, from its origin to the acceſſion of Guſtavus Vaſa in 1523; ſecondly, from that epocha to the death of Charles XII. in 1713; and laſtly, from this period to the memorable revolution above mentioned. — In this Hiſtory Mr Sheridan's information and abilities are equally conſpicuous, and he writes with a degree of elegance that gives dignity to the narrative. C.

Obſervations on Mr Hume's hiſtory of England. By J. Towers. 2 s 6 d. *Robinſon.* —— The author of theſe Obſervations is not the firſt that has accuſed Mr Hume of partiality in the character of hiſtorian; yet, how far ſuch a charge is well founded, may perhaps be matter of diſpute. Though the civil broils which agitated this kingdom towards the middle of the laſt century, have long ſince been extinguiſhed, ſo have not likewiſe the principles by which the oppoſite parties were actuated; and he who relates thoſe conteſts with the greateſt moderation, may frequently, on that very account, be expoſed to particular cenſure. — We have here ſufficient indications of Mr Towers's ingenuity and candour; and though himſelf, perhaps, may not be entirely void of modifications of the ſame qualities which he aſcribes to the hiſtorian, his remarks, even where they ſeem not to be ſtrictly juſt, are rendered extremely plauſible, and may be read with advantage. C.

A catalogue of the coins of Canute, King of Denmark and England; with ſpecimens. 3 s. *Conant, &c* —— The author gives a curious account of the ſeveral cabinets in which any coins of Canute are contained, and of ſome late diſcoveries of a great variety of pieces coined by that prince; who is remarkable for having eſtabliſhed mints at no fewer than thirty ſeven cities and towns in England. M.

Britiſh Remains; or, A collection of antiquities relating to the Britons; comprehending, 1. A conciſe hiſtory of the Lords Marchers; their origin, power, and conqueſts in Wales. 2 The arms of the ancient nobility and gentry of North Wales. 3. A letter of Dr Lloyd, Biſhop of St Aſaph's, concerning Jeffrey of Monmouth's hiſtory. 4. An account of the diſcovery of America by the Welſh, 300 years before the voyage of Columbus 5. A celebrated poem of Taliefſin, tranſlated in Sapphic verſe. The whole ſelected from original MSS. and other authentic records. To which are alſo added,

ed, Memoirs of Edward Llwyd, antiquary, tranſcribed from a manuſcript in the Muſeum, Oxford. By the Rev. N. Owen, jun A M 3s. *Bew.*——A curious, and (to thoſe who are diſpoſed to reliſh ſuch entertainment) an entertaining work M.

The trial at large of Robert Hitchcock, for the wilful murder of Edward Hitchcock his own father. Before the Hon Mr Juſtice Nares, at the Lent aſſizes held at Oxford, March 4. 1778. 6d. *Bew.* —— The crime for which this wretch juſtly ſuffered, was attended with circumſtances that diſgrace the age and country in which it appeared. Old Lear's uſage from his daughter was kindneſs to the manner in which he treated his father: —but, let poets feign what they pleaſe, the depravity of human nature will ſometimes go beyond even fancy. — The trial gratifies curioſity, and appears to be accurately taken. C [165]

An appeal to the people of England, on the preſent ſituation of national affairs; and to the county of Norfolk, on ſome late tranſactions and reports 6d. *Bew* ——A ſenſible picture of the times, chiefly calculated to rouſe the county of Norfolk into that indignation againſt France which ſeems to fire the whole kingdom. In many places this writer is rather warm: but what writer is not ſo, who thinks his country in danger? C.

A military courſe for the government and conduct of a battalion, deſigned for their regulation in quarters, camp, or garriſon; with uſeful obſervations and inſtructions for their manner of attack and defence. Ornamented with twenty copperplate plans By Thomas Simes, Eſq; late of the Queen's Royal Regiment. 10s 6d bound, with the plans coloured *Almon*, &c.——An uſeful compilement for officers; as to the private men, the price ſets it out of their reach. M.

America.

Unanimity in all the parts of the Britiſh commonwealth neceſſary to its preſervation, intereſt, and happineſs, and abſolutely depending on the wiſdom and ſpirit with which the preſent period of time is improved. Addreſſed to the King, Parliament, and People. 1s. *W. Davies.* —— A ſhort, but, at the ſame time, a ſingular and uncommon performance. It is the free, bold, and manly ſketch of a maſter. He ſpeaks of Britain, of America, of France, and of their relative and ſeparate intereſts, but with more warmth, perhaps, than judgement; and aſſerts, that a political connection between America and France, is not only impoſſible, but is not ſeriouſly intended even by Franklin. C.—Excepting a precipitate reſentment which our author attempts to excite, we have peruſed his conciliating pamphlet with pleaſure, and can heartily recommend it to the attention of the public M

The conciliatory bills conſidered 1s. *Cadell* —— A partial review and defence of the conduct of adminiſtration. M — The production of a clear head and able pen, aſſiſted, as it would ſeem, by no common information C.

The Conſtitutional Criterion. By a member of the univerſity of Cambridge 6d. *Almon* —— A brief inveſtigation of the firſt principles and ſpirit of the Britiſh conſtitution, which both the people and leaders in this country ſeem of late to have diſavowed or forgotten; with ſome accurate diſtinctions and definitions. M.

Propoſals for a plan of reconciliation and re union with the thirteen provinces of America, and for an union with the other colonies By one of the public. 1s. 6d. *Kearſley.* —— Seems to be dictated by good intentions This plan is by no means the worſt we have ſeen C — Modeſty, perſpicuity, an extenſive knowledge of the ſubject, and a love of liberty, characteriſe theſe propoſals, and render them worthy the ſerious and candid conſideration of every one who wiſhes well to the Britiſh empire. M.

Natural Hiſtory, Medicine, Agriculture, &c.

The Beauties of Flora diſplayed; or, Gentleman and Lady's pocket companion to the flower and kitchen garden; on an entire new plan: with a catalogue of ſeeds neceſſary for each of them. By N. Swinden, gardener and ſeedſman at Brentford-end. 2s. *Dodſley*, &c —— The chief peculiarity of this little manual of horticulture, conſiſts in the deſcription of the heights and colours of about 200 different flowers, with particular directions for ſowing, managing, and arranging them, ſo as to have thoſe of nearly equal heights by themſelves, and that no two flowers of the ſame colour be ſeen together, nor that any one kind ſhould be hidden by the other. By this means, you have, at one view, the whole garden painted with a pleaſing variety, in the richeſt array of nature, and executed with very little trouble. M.

A Tour in Wales. 1l 1s. *White.* —— Mr Pennant begins this Tour with a deſcription of Downing in the county of Flint, the place of his nativity. This volume is embelliſhed with many beautiful copperplates of old buildings, and other antiquities. It contains a complete tour of the interior parts of Wales C.

A ſafe and eaſy remedy propoſed for the relief of the ſtone and gravel, the ſcurvy, gout, &c. and for the deſtruction of worms in the human body. By Nathaniel Holme, M. D. 2s. *Robinſon* —— The remedy here adviſed

adviſed by Dr Hulme in the cure of the ſtone conſiſts of a ſolution of ſalt of tartar in water, the adminiſtration of which is to be followed by a ſuitable quantity of the ſmall ſpirit of vitriol, given likewiſe in water, ſo that the mixture of theſe medicines may produce fixed air in the ſtomach. The efficacy of this method of cure he confirms by ſeveral caſes. He has ſubjoined an extemporaneous method of impregnating water, and other liquids, with fixed air, by ſimple mixture only, without the aſſiſtance of any apparatus, or complicated machine. We wiſh that the ſeveral caſes which he has related, may be followed by others of ſufficient authority to eſtabliſh the practice. C.

Obſervations on ſome of the articles of diet and regimen uſually recommended to valetudinarians. By William Falconer, M. D. F. R. S. 1 s. *Dilly* —— A ſtrict prohibition from vegetable food, bread, butter, and ſugar, with the ſubſtitution of brandy, or rum and water, for drink, inſtead of malt-liquors, are here cenſured by Dr Falconer, as frequently productive of bad effects, when long continued. C.

Farther obſervations upon the effects of camphire and calomel; upon the effects of calomel in the dropſy; upon Bath waters; and upon the epilepſy; being an appendix to eſſays upon theſe ſubjects formerly publiſhed. To which is added, a letter to Dr *Adair* upon the effects of a decoction of the elm-bark in cutaneous eruptions. By Daniel Lyſons, M. D. 1 s. *Wilkie* —— A caſe here given of the effects of calomel in dropſies is worthy of obſervation. A boy, diſtended with water to an amazing ſize, and almoſt expiring for want of breath, after the unſucceſsful exhibition of various medicines, took ſix pills, of five grains of calomel each, in the ſpace of twenty four hours, which entirely evacuated the water by the way of ſtone, without producing any effect on the ſalival glands. The boy filled again, but a repetition of the ſame medicine, followed by tonics, radically cured him. — Chymiſtry does not ſeem to be the Doctor's *fort*. — Some inſtances of the efficacy of the flowers of cardamine in the epilepſy, though by no means ſo concluſive as might be wiſhed, are no inconſiderable confirmation of its poſſeſſing a power in this diſeaſe which merits the attention of the faculty. The letter concerning the effects of elm-bark was read at the college of phyſicians, and ſeems to prove its title to be regarded as a valuable medicine in cutaneous complaints. M.

Obſervations on wounds of the head, with a particular enquiry into the parts principally affected in thoſe who die in conſequence of ſuch injuries. By William Deaſe ſurgeon to the united hoſpitals of St Nicholas and St Catherine, Dublin. 2 s. 6 d. *Robinſon.* —— We would recommend the peruſal of this work to practitioners; although, perhaps, it will rather tend to confirm them in an opinion of the inefficacy of every method of treating theſe caſes, than to give them confidence in any one. M.

A new epitome of practical navigation; or guide to the Indian ſeas, &c. The whole illuſtrated with a variety of copperplates. By Samuel Dunn, teacher of mathematics, London. 9 s. *Becket*, &c. —— Beſide the rules, &c. to be met with in treatiſes of navigation in general, this work contains ſome novelties peculiar to the author. Particularly, in a dedication to the Directors of the Eaſt India company, Mr Dunn makes his acknowledgements for the leave given him by them, to take the obſervations of the variation of the needle from the journals of their ſhips; from which obſervations, and the application of the theory of the magnetic needle diſcovered by him, "the new variation-charts (publiſhed not long ago by the author, on nine copperplates, under the title of, *A New Atlas of Variations of the Magnetic Needle, for the Atlantic, Ethiopic, Southern, and Indian oceans, &c.*) for thoſe oceans which are croſſed in Eaſt India voyages, have been drawn and publiſhed"— And to ſupply their defect he adds, "where the variation lines run unfavourable for aſcertaining the longitude, I have written this treatiſe." The author likewiſe inveſtigates and corrects the errors incident in ſome nice obſervations, which proceed from not attending to the ſpheroidical figure of the earth; particularly in taking amplitudes, &c. M.

An introduction to Fluxions, deſigned for uſe, and adapted to the capacities of beginners. By the Rev. F. Holliday. 6 s. *Newſe.* —— The diſcovery of fluxions was undoubtedly the moſt uſeful that ever was made in mathematics, the univerſality of its nature extending to and comprehending every branch, beſides performing them in the eaſieſt method yet known: "a diſcovery (ſays a late author) of the greateſt importance both in philoſophy and mathematics; it being a method ſo general and extenſive, as to include all inveſtigations concerning magnitude, diſtance, motion, velocity, time, &c. with wonderful eaſe and brevity."—Bacon ſaid, that "an introduction ought to have two properties; the one, that of a perſpicuous and clear method; and the other, that of an univerſal latitude and comprehenſion, where the ſtudents may have a little pre-notion of every thing, like a model towards a great building." It would be well if writers of introductions kept thoſe outlines of ſo great a maſter always in view. We think they are not to be met with, in any great degree, in Mr Holliday's Introduction,

as

as his method is rather dark and confused, both with respect to the order of placing the materials, and the explanation of the rules and examples. — However, the book contains a numerous collection of examples, which may prove useful exercises for students. C.

A description of the lines drawn on Gunter's scale, as improved by Mr John Robertson, late librarian to the Royal Society; and executed by Messr. Nairne and Blunt, mathematical instrument makers, London. With their use and application to practice, exemplified more especially in navigation and astronomy By William Mountaine, mathematical examiner to the Trinity house of Deptford-Strond. 1s. 6d *Nairne and Blunt.* —— Mr Robertson, not long before his death, was applied to by some gentlemen of science, to examine and correct the errors which had crept into the common Gunter's scale, by negligence in its fabrication, or other causes. He accordingly set about this work, though he was then in a very infirm state of health, and re constructed all the lines, with some improvements, and then had the whole mechanically finished under his own inspection, by Messr. Nairne and Blunt. But, dying after he had just begun the description of this new and improved scale, the completing of the description, and uses of it, was committed to the care of Mr Mountaine; who has finished the undertaking in a plain and intelligent manner. C.

The true theory and practice of husbandry: deduced from philosophical researches and experience. By Cuthbert Clarke. 10s. 6d. *Robinson.*

A work which tends to establish agriculture upon fixed principles, cannot fail of being highly useful; and the volume now before us is unquestionably of this kind.

Among the subjects considered are, the criterion of good plowing, observations on thin plowing, experiments to shew how corn vegetates, and the affinity between plants and animals.—The following are part of the author's remarks in explanation of this doctrine.

"First, In the analysis of a grain of wheat, we find the embryo plant or germ placed in two lobes, in a manner exactly similar to the fœtus in the placenta or cotyledones of animals. We also find the germ in the first stages of vegetation nourished by the matter the lobes contain, through veins dispersed amongst it, and connected to the germ in a manner analogous to the umbilical vein of the fœtus. And as the umbilical orifice of an animal is closed (after it is protruded from the womb) by a ligature formed of the veins and arteries, which constitute the tube, or *funiculis umbilicalis*, as it is called; so, in like manner, when the nourishment which the lobes contained is exhausted, the vessels which were dispersed amongst it, and connected to the germ, contract and draw the husk or covering upon the orifice; and there it continues as a ligature, until the agglutination of the orifice is completed: — than which nothing can be a more striking instance of sameness.

Plants are also analogous to animals in the circulation of the juices and humours of their bodies: having air and sap vessels corresponding to the veins and arteries in the animal body; and the genial heat occasioned by fermentation serves the purposes of the throbbing heart. They also, like animals, if their head or top is long deprived of air, after they are delivered, die by suffocation: as is the case when seed is laid too deep in the mould, and when the mould has been trampled or rolled too much.

Secondly, From this period, until they respectively arrive at maturity, we find the plant and the animal under much the same predicament; sometimes sleeping, and sometimes awake; sometimes in motion, and sometimes standing still. The one moves by voluntary agency, and the other by tortuitous means, it is acknowledged; but the exercise a plant receives by vibrating in a breeze, probably as much assists its digestion and perspiration, as a gallop assists those operations in a colt, &c We likewise find them in the same exposure, suffering together from the severity of seasons, and recovering alike when these are past.

We also perceive them improve reciprocally by an enlarged pasture; and mutually thrive better by being kept clean. In short, except in point of mere sensation, and voluntary motion, from the womb to the summit of maturity, there is the most unexceptionable analogy between these worlds.

And, thirdly, When they have arrived at maturity, we behold, if possible, a still greater affinity; each having their sexes, their propensities, their seasons of copulation, and pregnancy consequent thereon: after which their efforts are still exactly similar, being in both cases principally directed to promote the growth and welfare of their young:—and although some animals survive the operation, there are others, like the corn-tribe, that die as soon as they have protruded their ovaries; and all of them, after they become through age incapable of reproduction, hasten to a dissolution."

Mr Clarke has thrown new light upon the abstruse parts of agriculture; but he has not paid that attention to elegance and style, which might have been expected in so philosophical and ingenious a writer. C.

EDINBURGH.

Medical cases, selected from the records

of the public dispensary at Edinburgh; with remarks and observations. Being the substance of Case-lectures [39 720] delivered during the years 1776 7 By Andrew Duncan, M. D. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Lecturer on the Theory and Practice of Medicine, and one of the Physicians to the Public Dispensary at Edinburgh 5 s. *Elliot.*

The history of Ancient Greece, from the earliest times till it became a Roman province. By William Robertson. Edit. 2. [With additions and improvements, and illustrated with a map.] 6 s. boards. *Elliot.*

Odes, on several subjects By Robert Alves, A. M. 1 s. *Creech* —— Five Odes: 1. Vicissitude; 2 Malevolence; 3. To Night; 4. To Hygeia; 5. To Wisdom

Sermons, by Hugh Blair, D. D. Edit. 5. [in about twelve months] [39 42 197] 5 s. 3 d boards. *Creech*

The nature, extent, and importance, of the duty of allegiance: a sermon on the fast-day in 1776. By Dr Campbell [39 32] Edit. 2. 6 d *Creech, &c.*

Sermons. By John Steele, Esq; of Gadgirth, Minister of Stair 5 s. 3 d boards. *Elliot.*

This volume consists of ten sermons: 1. Natural evil the source of moral good: 2. The advantages of integrity under affliction; 3. The deformity of certain vicious characters; 4. A censorious temper inconsistent with the spirit of Christianity; 5. The danger of trusting to external religion; 6. Human inventions disclaimed, and genuine piety recommended; 7. The omniscience of the Deity illustrated; 8. Divine light and truth, the means of progress in religion, and leading to happiness; 9. Peace of mind a consequence of trust in the Deity; 10. The shortness and afflictions of human life illustrated.

An address to the Nobility and Gentry of Great Britain is prefixed; — from which we extract the beginning and concluding paragraphs, viz

" I offer the following discourses to your perusal, on account of their singularity, in being stripped of that systematical lumber with which men of heavy genius or dark design have loaded the pure and simple doctrines of Christianity; veiling its clear and important truths by unnatural glosses, strained commentaries, and trifling criticisms; darkening wisdom by words, and hoodwinking the inattentive, that they may drag them into darkness, as victims to their vanity. No wonder, indeed, that you are startled at the dismal gloom which superstition and artifice have spread over these divine maxims, as recommended by the finest simplicity of persuasive eloquence, and enforced by the winning influence of a most lovely and perfect example, altogether gentle, mild, and benevolent. While you despise the jugglers, who have despised the fairest objects that your hearts can be enamoured of, let attention draw aside the artful covering, and reason will discover the happy tendency of these principles, which correspond with your own unperverted sentiments, and are calculated both to instruct and to please. If you take them pure from the fountain, uncorrupted by the tainted conduct through which they are too frequently conveyed, you will have a high relish for the refreshing draughts of inward consolation, derived from these living sources and find them adding joyful prospects to your temporal comforts, reconciling you to the toils, trials, and afflictions of a fleeting state, and extending your views beyond the narrow limits of your span of measured time ——

There [in the New Testament] you will see the laws of God and nature; the laws of reason, good manners, and loyalty to the highest powers, united and jointly recommended to your regard, in precepts, and language of the most instructive kind; and may observe, that no establishment in the world has a stricter correspondence with these sacred rules, than that which you are the subjects of; and that no plan of government can be better calculated for preserving your temporal properties, or rights of private judgement Hereby our happy constitution is distinguished and secured. By strict attention to the stability of these our good and gracious sovereign is revered His virtuous, humane, and steady example, is held out to your imitation That a manly spirit may animate you, his faithful friends, to strengthen and encourage his endeavours in suppressing an unnatural, unprovoked, and ungrateful rebellion, sprung from the dregs of the country that reared, supported, and protected its degenerate offspring; fomented at home by pensioned P-rs, pretended patriots, and seditious incendiaries; kept alive by the hideous howlings of ravening ambition, which no income can appease; fox-like cunning, which no law can restrain; and unquenchable thirst for wealth and power, which no sources can supply That these dying sparks of furious faction may be relinquished; that we may live quiet and peaceable lives under the best of kings, and a prudent administration; and that the righteous may ever be esteemed when in authority, was a principal motive for publishing the following discourses; wherein spiritual and civil tyranny are disclaimed, the empire of reason and religion supported, and obedience to the laws of a mild and gentle government enforced by the most persuasive inducements.

That you may long live ornaments to your station, friends to your country, faithful to your king, and may ever honour Him who has honoured you, is the sincere wish of Your

The

The MAID of BATH.

PROLOGUE: Written by Mr Garrick.

Spoken by Mr Foote.

WHO but has read, if you have read at all,
Of one they *Jack the giant-killer* call?
He was a bold, ſtout, able-bodied man;
To clear the world of *fee, faw, fum*, his plan:
Whene'er a *monſter* had within his power
A young and tender *virgin* to devour,
To cool his blood, *Jack*, like a ſkilful ſurgeon,
Bled well the *monſter*, and releas'd the *virgin*;
Like the beſt doctors, did a method learn,
Of curing fevers never to return.
Mayn't I this *giant-killing* trade renew?
I have my *virgin* and my *monſter* too.
Tho' I can't boaſt, like *Jack*, a liſt of ſlain,
I wield a lancet, and can breathe a vein.
To his Herculean arm my nerves are weak,
He cleft his foes, I only make mine ſqueak;
As Indians wound their ſlaves to pleaſe the court,
I'll tickle mine, *Great Sirs*, to make you ſport.
To prove myſelf an humble imitator,
Giants are *vices*, and *Jack* ſtands for *ſatire*:
By tropes and figures, as it fancy ſuits,
Paſſions riſe monſters, men ſink down to brutes:
All talk and write in allegoric diction;
Court, city, town, and country run to fiction!
Each daily paper allegory teaches,—
Placemen are *locuſts*, and *contractors leeches*:
Nay, even *Change alley*, where no bard repairs,
Deals much in fiction to paſs off their wares;
For whence the roaring there!—from *bulls* and *bears!*

EPILOGUE: Written by R. Cumberland, Eſq;

Spoken by Mrs Jewell

CONfiding in the juſtice of the place,
To you "The Maid of Bath" ſubmits her caſe;
Wrong'd, and defeated of three ſeveral ſpouſes,
She lays her damages for nine full houſes.
Well, Sirs, you've heard the parties, *pro* and *con*
Do the *pro*'s carry it? ſhall the ſuit go on?
Speak hearts for us! to them we make appeal:
Tell us not what you think, but what you feel:
Aſk us, why bring a private cauſe to view?
We anſwer with a ſigh,—becauſe 'tis true:
For tho' invention is our poet's trade,
Here he but copies parts which others play'd.
For on a ramble, late one ſtarry night,
With Aſmodeo, his familiar ſpirite,
High on the wing, by his conductor's ſide,
This guilty ſcene the indignant bard deſcried;
Soaring in air, his ready pen he drew,
And daſh'd the glowing ſatire as he flew:
For in theſe rank luxuriant times, there needs
Some ſtrong bold hand to pluck the noxious weeds.
The rake of ſixty, crippled hand and knee,
Who ſins on claret, and repents on tea;
The witleſs macaroni, who purloins
A few cant words, which ſome pert gambler coins.
The undomeſtic Amazonian dame,
Stanch to her *coterie*, in deſpite of fame;
Theſe are the victims of our poet's plan:
But moſt, that *monſter*—an unfeeling man.
When ſuch a foe provokes him to the fight,
Tho' maim'd, out ſallies the puiſſant knight:
Like Withrington, maintains the glorious ſtrife,
And only yields his laurels—with his life.

PROLOGUE. Spoken by a gentleman of the Army, at the opening of the theatre in Southwark, Philadelphia, by a ſociety of gentlemen of the Army and Navy, for the laudable purpoſe of raiſing a ſupply for the widows and orphans of thoſe who have loſt their lives in his Majeſty's ſervice, as well as for ſuch other generous charities as their funds may enable them to perform.

ONce more, ambitious of theatric glory,
Howe's ſtrolling company appears before ye.
O'er hills, and dales, and bogs, thro' wind and weather,
And many a hair-breadth 'ſcape we've ſcrambl'd hither.
For we, true vagrants of the Theſpian race,
Whilſt ſummer laſts, ne'er know a ſettled place;
Anxious to prove the merit of our band,
A choſen ſquadron wander thro' the land.
How beats each Yankie boſom at our drum!
'Hark, Jonathan, zaunds, here's the ſtrollers come'
Spruc'd up with top-knots and their Sunday dreſs,
With eager looks the maidens round us preſs:
'Jemima ſee—in't this a charming ſight,
'Look Tabitha—Oh Lord! I wiſh 'twas night.'
Wing'd with variety our moments fly,
Each minute tinctur'd with a different dye:
Balls we have plenty, and *al Freſco* too,
Such as Soho or King ſtreet never knew.
Did you but ſee ſometimes how we're array'd,
You'd fancy we deſign'd a maſquerade:
'Twould tire your patience was I to relate here,
Our routs, drums, hurricanes, and *fetes champetres*
Let Ranelagh ſtill boaſt her ample dome,
While heaven's our canopy, the earth's our room;
Still let Vauxhall her marſhall'd lamps diſplay,
And gild her ſhades with artificial day:
In lofty terms old vaunting Sadler's-wells
Of her tight rope and ladder dancing tells,
But C——g—m in both by far excells.
Now winter *—Hark—and I muſt not ſay no—
'But ſoft, a word or two before I go:'
Benevolence firſt urg'd us to engage,
And boldly venture on a public ſtage,
To guard the helpleſs orphan's tender years,
To wipe away the afflicted parent's tears,
To ſoothe the ſorrows of the widow'd breaſt,
To lull the friendleſs boſom's care to reſt;
This our deſign—and ſure, in ſuch a cauſe,
E'en error's ſelf might challenge ſome applauſe,
With candour then our imperfections ſcan,
And where the actor fails, abſolve the man.

* *The bell rings.*

A new Occasional Prologue, spoken by the Author, April 6. 1778, on the Edinburgh Theatre, at the representation of a petit piece of one act, intitled, The VOLUNTEERS; the Piece and the Prologue both written by Mr WOODS.

JUST like the tim'rous young recruit I come,
Whose courage rises at the beat of drum—
But sent, at length, from home and kindred far,
T' embrace the serious bus'ness of the war;
Raw and unpractis'd in "the tented field,"
His failing arm can scarce the broad-sword wield;
'Till cheering trumpets, and the sound of arms,
Again his breast with martial ardour warms:
So rais'd, depress'd—by anxious hope and fear,
I come, to stand or fall—*your Volunteer.*
O! could I here, in never-dying verse,
The ancient valour of your sires rehearse,—
Bring BRUCE's bleeding honours to your view,
And the nerv'd temper of a WALLACE shew;
Then might I bid old Athens' stage revive,
And lessons, great as e'er the Grecian, give!—
But tho' Apollo, with his train, retires,—
Mars sees our youth possess their father's fires;
Britons, to glory prompt, no precept need,
Spontaneous valour bids 'em freely bleed—
Bleed, while a friend our country's welfare claims;
Bleed, while a foe to Britain's peace remains!—
And lo! where forward in the noble strife,
Eager for glory, prodigal of life,
Like a fierce torrent, rush forth SCOTIA's sons,
Whose current proves the source from whence it runs.—
Disdaining fortune, and the calms of ease,
Th' alluring baits of sweet domestic peace;
With Spartan rigidness, they woo fair Fame,—
With Scottish valour, win the hallow'd Dame!
Let then the Spaniard with the Gaul combine,
And hope success,—when alien Britons join;
Let them, in arts of policy profound,
Discharge their hyssop in a nation's wound!—
Let Spain's armadas row'rds our harbours steer,
And Gallic slaves on Britain's coasts appear—
Our sea-set jewel British seamen guard,
And British youths for freedom draw the sword!—
And, as th' immortal British poet sung,
(Let danger be the theme of every tongue,)
"Come the four corners of the world in arms,"
UNITED Britain shall be safe from harms!—
For me——
If in this trifle, born in hasty hour,
I shew the wish to please, beyond the pow'r;
If, yet unknown where veteran authors toil,—
A meer recruit—I from the line recoil;
The mark of judgement often fail to hit,
And stumble at the right and left of wit;
If I rush forward, where I shou'd retire,
And sometimes give the flash—without the fire;—
Excuse the errors of *a Volunteer*,
And from court-martial critics set him clear!
And should he ever in dramatic field,
With skill approv'd, his feather'd weapon wield;
Should Fame applauding, riper efforts greet,—
He'll lay each sprig of laurel—at *your feet!*—

BRITANNIA's Call to her SONS, in expectation of a French war.

Tune, *Come, then, all ye social Powers.*

COme, ye lads who wish to shine
Bright in future story,
Haste to arms, and form the line
That leads to martial glory.

CHORUS

Charge the musket, point the lance,
Brave the worst of dangers,
Tell the blust'ring sons of FRANCE,
That we to fear are strangers.

Britain, when the lion's rous'd,
And her flag is rearing,
Always finds her sons dispos'd
To drub the foe that's daring.
Chorus—Charge the musket, &c.

Hearts of oak, with speed advance,
Pour your naval thunder
On the trembling shores of France,
And strike the world with wonder.
Chorus—Charge the musket, &c.

Honour for the brave to share,
Is the noblest booty;
Guard your coast, protect the fair,
For that's a Briton's duty.
Chorus—Charge the musket, &c.

What if Spain, to take their parts,
Form a base alliance?
All unite, and English hearts
May bid the world defiance.

CHORUS

Beat the drum, the trumpet sound,
Manly and united,
Danger face, maintain your ground,
And see your country righted.

April 22. A WARWICKSHIRE LAD.

On reading the Second Volume of Mr WARTON's *History of* ENGLISH POETRY, *just published.*

THE minstrel bards of Albion's elder days,
Too long have ceas'd to trim their with'ring bays;
In vain, obedient to the clarion's call,
They cheer'd the banquet in the banner'd hall:
Warton to life restores the tuneful train,
Wakes the lost rhyme, and strings their harps again;
His skilful hand unlocks the fairy vale
Where ancient genius plann'd the knightly tale;
He shews the wreaths, ting'd with romantic hue,
Of old to valour and to beauty due.

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

SWEDEN.

"*Stockholm, March* 23. A circular letter, under his Swediſh Majeſty's ſign-manual, has been lately ſent to the Grand Governor of this capital, and to all the Governors of Provinces, wherein his Majeſty, in conſideration of the inconveniencies ariſing from the practice of ſmuggling, and the introduction of foreign luxuries, particularly in the articles of dreſs, ſignifies his intention, That, on the 28th of April next, his Majeſty, his Royal Brothers, the Senators of the realm, and the principal perſons of the court, ſhould wear from that time a new form of dreſs; and that, as ſoon as all the kingdom have followed the above example, the new adopted dreſs ſhall be affixed and confirmed by a formal ordinance. The whole army, when the reſpective regiments are provided with new cloathing, ſhall alſo wear a new form of regimentals." *Lond. gaz.*

GERMANY. [107.]

"*Berlin, April* 11. Yeſterday the garriſon of Potzdam, with a detachment of huſſars, marched, under the command of Prince Henry of Pruſſia, to join the King's army in Sileſia. The ſame day all the regiments of our garriſon, except Lettow's, marched out in three columns, commanded by Prince Frederick of Brunſwick, for the ſame place."

"*London, April* 28. Letters from Germany by the laſt mail ſay, "There is nothing leſs expected here than making up the differences between Frederick and Joſeph without bloodſhed: The King of Pruſſia will command 8000 of his own troops, 20,000 Ruſſians, and 12,000 coſſacks, in Bohemia, and his train of artillery conſiſts of 1000 pieces of cannon: and Prince Henry commands 100,000 Pruſſians and 20,000 Saxons in Germany." It is computed, that the Emperor and the King of Pruſſia have at preſent on foot 300,000 men each.

"*Berlin, April* 11. The garriſon marched out of Berlin yeſterday morning, under the command of Prince Frederick of Brunſwick; the ſame day the Prince of Pruſſia left Potzdam, at the head of the troops which were quartered there; and the whole body, amounting to near 30,000 men, proceeded on their way to Sileſia, accompanied by a very large train of artillery." *Lond. gaz.*

"*Berlin, April* 18. All the troops that garriſoned the neighbouring towns are in motion, and are daily paſſing through this capital. On the 1ſt inſtant the King arrived here from Potzdam: during his ſtay he held ſeveral conferences with his miniſters, and ſettled with them the plan of government that was to be purſued by them during his abſence.

On the 5th he reviewed all the regiments of our garriſon on the plains of Charlottenburg, and expreſſed the higheſt ſatisfaction at the appearance they made. After the review he addreſſed all the general officers preſent, among whom were his Royal brothers, and Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, in the following manner.

"GENTLEMEN, Moſt of us have ſerved together from our earlieſt days, and are grown gray in the ſervice of our country; we conſequently know each other perfectly well: we have borne our ſhare in the fatigues and troubles of war, and I make no doubt but you are as unwilling to ſhed blood as I am. But my dominions are now threatened: my duty, as a king, obliges me to protect my ſubjects, and to take the moſt ſpeedy and efficacious meaſures to diſperſe, if poſſible, the ſtorm that hangs over them. To effect theſe important purpoſes, I rely upon that zeal for my ſervice, and that attachment to my perſon, which you have always expreſſed, and which I never yet failed to experience at your hands; and you may reſt aſſured, Gentlemen, that I ſhall ever acknowledge, with a heart felt ſatisfaction, the ſervices that I am ſure you will render to your king and country. But let me intreat you never to loſe ſight of humanity, even when your enemies are in your power; and to cauſe the moſt exact diſcipline to be obſerved by the troops under your command. For my part, I wiſh not to travel like a king; rich and gaudy equipages have no charms for me: but as, infirm as I now am, I cannot travel as I formerly did when in the vigour of youth, I ſhall be obliged to uſe a poſt-chaiſe; and I leave you at liberty to do the ſame: but in the day of battle you ſhall ſee me on horſeback; and I hope that my generals will not fail, in that, to imitate their king."

After his Majeſty had finiſhed this addreſs, the miniſter of the war department declared, that the King had been graciouſly pleaſed to order preſents to be made

made in the following proportion to all the officers of the army, to enable them to equip themſelves for the camp.

To every General five hundred rixdollars.
To every Colonel two hundred.
To every Major one hundred and fifty.
To every Captain one hundred.
To every Lieutenant eighty.
To every Enſign ſixty

And that the pay of all the troops, from the day they take the field, ſhall be augmented one fourth, as well in money as proviſions."

"*Vienna, April* 11. His Imperial Majeſty, attended by the Archduke Maximilian, ſet out this morning very early for Olmutz in Moravia, to which city Prince Albert of Saxony went on Thurſday laſt. From thence it is ſaid, that the Emperor will go to viſit the fortreſs of Koniggratz, the cantonments about Prague, and then proceed to the town of Brandeis, where his Majeſty has for the preſent fixed his head quarters." *L. gaz.*

"*Ratiſbon, April* 13. On the 10th inſt. the Imperial ambaſſador delivered an anſwer, in due form, in the aſſembly of the diet, to the declaration of his Pruſſian Majeſty, delivered in the ſame aſſembly by his ambaſſador on the 16th of March; the ſubſtance of which anſwer is as follows.

"That his Imperial Majeſty having laid before his Highneſs the Elector Palatine, ſoon after the deceaſe of the late Elector of Bavaria, his claims and pretenſions on Lower Bavaria, as the patrimony of the late Duke John of Bavaria, and the different fiefs ſituated in the Upper Palatinate, and formerly granted by the crown of Bohemia, &c. the ſaid Elector Palatine has acknowledged the ſaid pretenſions to be valid and well grounded; that, in conſequence thereof, an agreement has been made between the two parties, according to which the diviſion of Bavaria has been ſettled in the ſame manner as it has taken place, without affording a third power a juſt ground for interfering in the buſineſs, which properly regards only the Emperor and the preſent Elector of Bavaria: And whereas this does not bear the leaſt ſhadow of diſmembering the dominions of a Prince of the Empire by force, as has been repreſented by the Elector of Brandenburg, but is founded on juſt pretenſions and a friendly agreement; his Imperial Majeſty does not think himſelf any ways accountable to any Elector or Prince of the Empire for the ſteps he has taken in the courſe of this diſpute: but, thoroughly ſatisfied, that in the cauſe he has embarked he has juſtice on his ſide, he is determined to perſevere in the meaſures he has adopted, and to ſupport his pretenſions by force of arms."

After this memorial had been delivered to the members of the diet, the Pruſſian miniſter made a reply to the following purport.

"That he would tranſmit this memorial of his Imperial Majeſty to his maſter, and wait for further inſtructions how to proceed in the buſineſs; but that in the mean time he could not avoid repeating to the diet, that he had received expreſs commands from his court, to aſſure them, that his maſter had no other object in view than to ſupport the conſtitutions of the Empire, and to ſee the different family compacts entered into carried into execution according to law; and to maintain the peace and general welfare of the empire."

The diet then reſolved, that a copy of the treaty between the Emperor and the Elector Palatine ſhould be laid before them; and of which the following are the moſt eſſential articles. "1. That the claims of the Houſe of Auſtria on Lower Bavaria having been firſt laid before the Elector Palatine, his Electoral Highneſs ſhall duly recogniſe and acknowledge them. 2. That it ſhall be lawful for Auſtria to take poſſeſſion of all thoſe diſtricts which formerly compoſed the patrimony of Duke John, (who lived in the fifteenth century). 3. That the Houſe of Auſtria ſhall be at liberty to take poſſeſſion of thoſe diſtricts to which Duke John had a doubtful claim. 4. That if the Elector Palatine ſhall aſſert, that any particular diſtrict, which his Highneſs may wiſh to retain, did not belong to Duke John, the proof of the negative ſhall reſt upon the Elector."

Though the Imperial miniſter cautiouſly avoided to lay before the diet the particulars of this negotiation, yet it is a moſt certain fact, that the Elector Palatine was told, that if he did not accede to theſe articles, 60,000 Auſtrians ſhould immediately march from the frontiers, and take poſſeſſion of Upper and Lower Bavaria, together with the Upper Palatinate.

This menace produced the deſired effect; for the Elector Palatine, in conſequence of it, immediately ſigned the treaty,

ty, in preſence of Count Seinſheim and Baron Vieregg.

On the 11th inſt. the day after the Imperial miniſter had communicated his memorial to the diet, the Elector Palatine laid before that auguſt aſſembly his claims to the following diſtricts, into which the Emperor has already marched his troops: On one ſide of the Danube, Riedemburg, Altmannſtein, the city of Hof, Weachs, Wetterfeld, Schwarzach, Zwiefel, Weiſſenſtein, Regen, Dieſſenſtein, Bernſtein, Bodenmeiſs; on the other ſide of the Danube, the diſtricts of Abenſperg, Rottenburg, Ecknicht, Teyſbach, Leonſberg, Oſterhofen, Grieſbach, &c.

The will of the late Elector of Bavaria was afterwards laid before the diet: the moſt material articles contained in it are, "That after the deceaſe of Duke Clement, (brother to the late Elector of Bavaria), the reigning Elector Palatine ſhould be declared heir to all the allodials, &c. of Bavaria: That the Elector Palatine, when he ſhould ſucceed to the Bavarian dominions, ſhould deliver up to the Electreſs-dowager of Saxony the old family ſet of jewels, worth 200,000 florins: That he ſhould pay to the Electreſs-dowager of Bavaria, excluſive of her jointure of 460,000 florins ſecured by the marriage-ſettlement, the ſum of 225,000 florins: That the Elector Palatine, when Elector of Bavaria, and his heirs for ever in that electorate, ſhould conſtantly maintain an army of 12,000 effective men: and, That thoſe who ſhould be actual miniſters of ſtate at the deceaſe of Maximilian, ſhould, together with the Elector Palatine and the States, be executors of his will."

"*Vienna, Feb.* 11. They write from Hermanſtadt, that ſeveral ſhocks of earthquakes were felt there for the ſpace of half an hour, which threatened the deſtruction of the city, though happily no miſchief enſued; but the effects were fatal at Cronſtadt, where the ſteeple of a church was thrown down during the time of divine ſervice, when 119 perſons were killed upon the ſpot, and many others were much hurt."

"*Vienna, March* 25. They write from OEdinburg in Hungary, that in the diſtrict of Szirmie, there has been lately diſcovered two villages, occupied by ſome people whom geographers call *Clementi*, who ſpeak a language which hath nothing in common with the Hungarian, the Grecian, Eſclavonian, German, nor with the Turkiſh, Tartarian, or Valachian idioms. The celebrated De Liſle places a people of that name in Upper Albania in the confines of Servia, between the rivers de Zern and Leſtrichia, at the eaſt of their junction; but the geographical nomenclators ſay nothing of their particular language, which hath ſo little relation to the tongues of the neighbouring nations."

FRANCE. [108.]

"*London, March* 30. The reception that Dr Franklin, and Meſſ. Deane and Lee, met with at Verſailles, when introduced to the King in quality of Ambaſſadors from the United States of North America [189.], was honourable to the higheſt degree. They went in elegant coaches, attended by domeſtics in ſuperb French liveries, with a ſuite. On their entrance into the court-yard, martial muſic ſtruck up, the ſoldiers were under arms, and the French flag was lowered as a ſolemn ſalute, which all the officers accompanied. In the inner part of the palace, they were received by *le cent Suiſſes*, the major of which announced, "*Les Ambaſſadeurs de les Treize Provinces Unies*," i. e. "The Ambaſſadors from the Thirteen United Provinces." When they were uſhered into the Royal Preſence, the College of Paris, the Biſhops, the Nobility, Miniſters, Foreign and Domeſtic, and Ladies, aroſe, and ſaluted them."

About the 20th of March, an edict was publiſhed at Paris, and in all the principal cities of France, giving notice, that his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty had concluded a treaty with the Independent States of America, and that all his ſubjects might take the benefit thereof.

"*Dunkirk, March* 24. Yeſterday was performed here the uſual prelude to a war, viz. the ſtoppage of all the Britiſh ſhips in our ports, ſmugglers excepted."

"*Paris, March* 23. His Majeſty has ſignified to Mr Fraſer, the Engliſh commiſſary at Dunkirk, that his commiſſion having now ceaſed, he had nothing to do but to depart whenever he thought proper, unleſs he choſe to remain there as a private perſon; and orders are given to repair the works and fortifications of this port."

"*Bourdeaux, March* 26. A courier arrived here the morning before yeſterday from the Admiralty, the judge of which ſet out the ſame day with the tide to go to the lower part of the river, and there

he ſtopped the Engliſh veſſels which were cleared out of our ports: thoſe which had gone down the river were obliged to return, and their ſails have been taken away, and put into warehouſes; there are about eleven veſſels."

"*London, April* 29. Advice is received by the laſt French mail, that the Toulon fleet ſailed on the 14th inſt. under the command of Monſ. le Count d'Eſtaing and Monſ. de Bougainville: it conſiſts of twelve ſhips of the line, beſides tranſports and ſtoreſhips, and there are twelve battalions embarked, with proviſions for ſix months. The deſtination of this ſquadron is kept a profound ſecret; but as Monſ. Gerard (who was lately appointed Envoy to the States of America) and Mr Silas Deane are on board, there can be no doubt but they are deſtined for the coaſt of America."

"*Toulon, April.* 13. The ſquadron under the command of Vice-Admiral Count d'Eſtaing, conſiſting of one ſhip of 90 guns, one of 80, ſix of 74, three of 64, one of 50, and five frigates of 30 guns each, with 1500 regular troops on board, ſailed from hence this afternoon at four o'clock.

A medal has been lately ſtruck at Paris, by direction of M. Voltaire, in honour of General Waſhington. On one ſide is the buſt of the General, with this inſcription: "G. Waſhington, Eſq; Commander of the Continental Army in America." The reverſe is decorated with the emblems of war, and the following inſcription:

Waſhington reunit, par un rare aſſemblage,
Des talens du Guerrier et des vertus du Sage.

"*Paris, March* 21. The day before yeſterday the Count d'Artois, the French King's youngeſt brother, and the Duke of Bourbon, ſon of the Prince of Conde, met in the preſence of ſix noblemen; when the two Princes, drawing their ſwords, attacked each other with ſuch fury, that they would ſoon have put an end to the conteſt, had not the noblemen preſent interfered. The Count d'Artois was ſlightly wounded in the ſword-arm, the Duke of Bourbon being a much better ſwordſman than his R. Highneſs. The occaſion of the quarrel was owing to the Ducheſs of Bourbon having had the imprudence at the maſquerade to lift up the maſk of the Count, who was incognito with a lady that ſhe had diſmiſſed from amongſt her ladies of honour. The young ſpirited lover was ſo much incenſed at this liberty, that he wringed the Ducheſs's noſe, and put all the court in confuſion on that account. The King, having heard of this rencounter, has exiled him to Choiſi."

"*London, April* 23. The Count d'Artois and the Duke de Bourbon appeared lately at the Comedie Françoiſe, to ſee Voltaire's tragedy of Irene performed. The ſpectators, looking wiſhfully at both, expreſſed, by their looks and geſtures, their ardent deſire to ſee them again on friendly terms. The Princes, unable to reſiſt the wiſhes of the people, ſaluted each other, and gave every token of a cordial reconciliation; and the company, by the loudeſt plaudits, expreſſed their happineſs at the ſight."

SPAIN.

"*Madrid, Jan.* 28. The following particulars make part of the treaty of peace concluded in October laſt, between our Court and that of Liſbon [39. 555. 671.].—The iſland of St Catharine is to be reſtored to Portugal, in the ſame ſtate it was in when it was ſurrendered to the Spaniards; but it is expreſsly ſtipulated, that hereafter no foreign veſſel ſhall be ſuffered to enter the ports of the iſland. The colony of the Bleſſed Sacrament is ceded for ever to Spain; ſo that in future the Spaniſh flag alone will be ſeen navigating in the Rio de la Plata. The Rio Grande is to be open to and held in common by both nations: Portugal is to hold the northern ſhore, while the ſouthern remains in the poſſeſſion of Spain: all other nations are to be excluded from the navigation of this river. Portugal is to reſtore to Spain the forts and poſſeſſions ſhe ſeized during the conteſt; and the latter is to be at liberty to erect in her territories as many fortreſſes as ſhe ſhall think proper."

"*Genoa, April* 21. The report of a revolt in one of the poſſeſſions of the Spaniards in America is now confirmed. They write from Quito in Peru, that on account of a new regiſtry of the Indians which was making, the ſaid Indians roſe in a village in the neighbourhood of that place, and after having maſſacred the clerks and other perſons employed in the regiſtry, marched to the city; where the Governor attempting to repulſe them, was killed, with about 1000 inhabitants and militia haſtily collected together. It is added, that the Indians have ſent a deputation

deputation to the Indios Bravos, who are diſperſed in the interior parts of America, and it is feared that this affair will be attended with fatal conſequences."

West Indies.

The aſſembly of Jamaica voted 500l. Sterling for a monument to be erected in memory of Sir Baſil Keith [39. 455.], with the following epitaph.

Sacred to the Memory
Of
Sir Basil Keith, Governor of Jamaica,
Who departed this life on the 15th day of June 1777.
In the duties of his office
He was aſſiduous;
Wiſe and impartial, in the adminiſtration of juſtice.
A friend to mankind,
And a father to the people over whom he preſided.
This Monument is erected by the Aſſembly, to tranſmit
To poſterity
The gratitude of the people of this iſland
For the happineſs they enjoyed under his mild and upright government.

England. [165.]

The royal aſſent was given to the following bills:

To theſe, by commiſſion, April 10.

An act for allowing the re-importation of unmanufactured tobacco from foreign parts, although the ſame may have been ſold abroad, and the importation of tobacco the growth and product of the iſland of Dominica, under certain regulations and reſtrictions.

An act for appointing commiſſioners to put in execution an act of this ſeſſion of parliament, "for granting an aid to his Majeſty by a land-tax to be raiſed in Great Britain, for the ſervice of the year 1778," together with thoſe named in two former acts for appointing commiſſioners of the land-tax.

An act for allowing corn, grain, and flour, imported into the ports of Portſmouth, Sandwich, Chicheſter, and Cheſter, to be landed without payment of the duties, under the like reſtrictions as corn, grain, and flour, is allowed to be landed at the ſeveral ports mentioned in an act 13° Geo. III. "to regulate the importation and exportation of corn."

An act for repealing ſo much of an act 13° Geo. III. "to explain, amend, and reduce into one act of parliament, the general laws now in being, for regulating the turnpike-roads in that part of G. Britain called England, and for other purpoſes," as is to ſubject carriages having the felloes of the wheels thereof of leſs breadth or gauge than ſix inches, to the payment of double tolls, and for vacating contracts for leaſing tolls.

Twelve public bills, relating to roads, and other matters of police, and ſixteen private bills: none of either relate to Scotland.

To theſe, by the King, April 16.

An act for enabling his Majeſty to ſettle on their Royal Highneſſes the Princes Frederick, Biſhop of Oſnaburgh, William Henry, Edward, Erneſt Auguſtus, Auguſtus Frederick, and Adolphus Frederick, an annuity of ſixty thouſand pounds per annum; and alſo to ſettle on their Royal Highneſſes the Princeſſes Charlotte Auguſta Matilda, Auguſta Sophia, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sophia, one other annuity of thirty thouſand pounds per annum; and alſo to ſettle on his Highneſs Prince William Frederick one other annuity of eight thouſand pounds per annum, and on her Highneſs the Princeſs Sophia Matilda one other annuity of four thouſand pounds per annum.

An act for granting to his Majeſty certain duties upon all inhabited houſes within the kingdom of Great Britain.

An act for granting to his Majeſty ſeveral additional duties upon wines and vinegar imported into this kingdom.

An act for the more effectually levying of the duty upon ſervants in that part of Great Britain called Scotland.

Two public bills relating to matters of police, and nine private bills: none of either relate to Scotland. — One of the laſt is, *An act to diſſolve the marriage of John Hooke Campbell, Eſq; with Eliſabeth Euſtacia, his now wife, and to enable him to marry again.*

By an order of council, dated, April 22, the bounties to ſeamen or landmen who enter into the ſea-ſervice [109.], are continued to the 30th of June.

"*St James's, April* 4. The following addreſs having been tranſmitted by his Excellency the Earl of Buckinghamſhire, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to the Lord Viſcount Weymouth, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been preſented to his Majeſty.

"To the King's Moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble addreſs of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, in Parliament aſſembled.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

We, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords Spiritual and

Temporal, and Commons, in Parliament aſſembled, in the preſent critical ſituation of affairs, beg leave humbly to approach your Majeſty with the moſt unfeigned aſſurances of loyalty, duty, and attachment, to your Majeſty's royal perſon and government; and to declare, that, at a time when the public tranquillity is in danger of being further diſturbed by the interpoſition of a foreign power, we feel ourſelves called upon to take the earlieſt opportunity of expreſſing our zeal for the dignity of your Majeſty's crown, and our earneſt wiſhes and warmeſt regards for the proſperity of Great Britain. We think it at this time peculiarly incumbent on us to aſſure your Majeſty, that your Majeſty may rely with the greateſt confidence on the entire affections of your faithful ſubjects of Ireland; and depend on their co-operating chearfully with your Majeſty, to the utmoſt of their ability, in aſſerting the honour of your Majeſty's government, and eſtabliſhing the ſecurity of your dominions."

In the gazette of April 11. there are four addreſſes, which were tranſmitted by the Earl of Buckinghamſhire, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to Ld Viſc. Weymouth, and by his Lordſhip preſented to the King, and received by his Majeſty very graciouſly, from the city of Dublin, and from the counties of Dublin, Weſtmeath, and Leitrim.—We give extracts.

"—— We ſhould hold ourſelves unworthy of the happineſs we enjoy, were we not to devote every exertion of our abilities to the ſafety and dignity of your crown and empire againſt all attempts of foreign and domeſtic enemies.—Though we lament the approaching horror of war, and earneſtly beſeech the Almighty, that the olive-branch of peace may be extended over every part of your wide dominions; our firm confidence in your Majeſty's wiſdom and juſtice impels us to declare, that we are ready to promote every meaſure that ſhall be neceſſary to ſecure the honour and dignity of your throne, and advance the ſafety and happineſs of your people." *Dublin city, dated March 27.*

"—— We beſeech your Majeſty to be aſſured, that the perfidy of France ſerves only to animate our minds, if poſſible, with additional zeal againſt the natural enemies of our King and country. — Should that reſtleſs nation direct her ambitious projects towards this kingdom, we have no doubt but that ſhe will find it protected by the paternal care of a juſt and affectionate prince, and defended by the efforts of a brave and united people.—If the wiſdom of the legiſlature ſhall think proper to arm us with the conſtitutional aſſiſtance of a well-regulated militia, we have no doubt that it will contribute much to repel any attack that may be attempted againſt this country.—Unanimity is the baſis of victory; we therefore aſſure your Majeſty, that whenever the domeſtic tranquillity of Great Britain or this kingdom ſhall be threatened or diſturbed, your Majeſty will find us ready to ſtand forth and ſupport, with our lives and fortunes, the honour and dignity of your crown, and the ſafety and welfare of theſe kingdoms." *Dublin county, dated April 2.*

In the ſame gazette we have a reſolution of one Houſe of the parliament of Ireland, and an addreſs of the other to the Lord Lieutenant, on a royal meſſage, ſimilar to that to the Britiſh parliament [189.], having been ſent to them March 27. with the declaration of the French ambaſſador; — which we inſert verbatim, viz.

"*Sabbati, 28° die Martii, 1778.*

RESOLVED, *nemine contradicente*, That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, to requeſt that his Excellency will be pleaſed to return his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe, for the important intelligence his Majeſty has been pleaſed to communicate to them:

That we have read, with the utmoſt indignation and reſentment, a copy of the declaration delivered by the French ambaſſador to Lord Viſc. Weymouth; and that we cannot but applaud the meaſure taken by his Majeſty in conſequence of that offenſive communication on the part of the court of France, in ſending orders to his ambaſſador to withdraw from that court:

That, confiding in his Majeſty's paternal attachment to the welfare of his people, and his ſpirited regards for the honour of his crown, we make no doubt but he will purſue ſuch meaſures as may effectually preſerve and aſſert thoſe great objects; and that as we are conſcious no part of his Majeſty's dominions can exceed his faithful ſubjects of Ireland in the moſt loyal attachment to his perſon and government, ſo we are perſuaded that his

his Majeſty will extend his royal care and attention to the effectual protection and defence of this kingdom; and that we intreat his Excellency to aſſure his Majeſty, that in ſo doing he may rely on the moſt zealous and affectionate ſupport of this Houſe, and that we ſhall chearfully employ every means in our power to make good whatever expence ſhall be neceſſarily incurred thereby; ſincerely lamenting that our abilities are not equal to our zeal for the honour of his Majeſty's crown, and the real intereſts of Great Britain:

That the juſtice and good faith of his Majeſty towards foreign powers are too conſpicuous, and the ſincerity of his wiſhes to preſerve the tranquillity of Europe too well known, to admit of his being reſponſible for the diſturbance of that tranquillity, if his Majeſty ſhould find himſelf obliged to reſent ſo unprovoked and ſo unjuſt an aggreſſion on the honour of his crown, and the eſſential intereſts of his kingdoms: That we make no doubt but his Majeſty will find abundant reſources in the ſtrength of his kingdoms, and, above all, in the hearts of his people, to repel every inſult and attack, and to maintain and uphold the power and reputation of his Majeſty's dominions; and that we cannot but rejoice that his Majeſty's loyal ſubjects of Ireland have had an opportunity of anticipating the preſent occaſion, by unanimous and uncalled-for aſſurances of their affectionate zeal and loyalty to his Majeſty's perſon and government.

H. Alcock, *S. Carew,* } Cler. Dom. Com."

The Lord Lieutenant's Anſwer.

GENTLEMEN, I ſhall loſe no time in tranſmitting to his Majeſty thoſe ſentiments of loyalty and attachment which dictated this addreſs; and I muſt deſire you to accept of my beſt thanks for that exemplary zeal for the public ſervice, and that moſt honourable firmneſs, which has decided all your meaſures upon this important occaſion."

"To his Excellency John Earl of Buckinghamſhire, Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

The humble addreſs of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament aſſembled.

May it pleaſe your Excellency,

WE, his Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, intreat your Excellency, that you will be pleaſed to return his Majeſty our moſt grateful thanks, for the gracious direction he hath been pleaſed to give for laying before us a copy of the declaration of the French ambaſſador to Ld Viſc. Weymouth, and for acquainting us, that, in conſequence of this offenſive communication on the part of the court of France, his Majeſty has thought proper to order his ambaſſador to withdraw from that court.

We beg leave to aſſure his Majeſty, that we feel with indignation this unjuſt and unprovoked aggreſſion on the honour of his Majeſty's crown, and the eſſential intereſts of his kingdoms.

We cannot entertain a doubt, but that the juſtice and good faith of his Majeſty's conduct towards foreign powers, and the ſincerity of his wiſhes to preſerve the tranquillity of Europe, will be acknowledged by all the world; and his Majeſty cannot, as we humbly conceive, be conſidered as reſponſible for any thing which may happen to diſturb that tranquillity, in caſe his Majeſty ſhall find himſelf obliged to call forth the force and reſources of his kingdoms, in oppoſition to that enterpriſing, reſtleſs, and ambitious ſpirit, which, for the ſake of its own aggrandiſement, has ſo often invaded the rights and threatened the liberties of Europe.

And we further beg leave to aſſure his Majeſty, that, animated with a grateful ſenſe of the many bleſſings we enjoy, and by that unremitting zeal which this kingdom has ever manifeſted in the ſupport of the juſt rights of his Majeſty's crown, and the welfare and proſperity of our country, we ſhall at all times be ready, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, to ſtand forth in the public defence; truſting, under Providence, his Majeſty will find that there is a ſtrength and ſpirit in his people, which will be found adequate not only to repel every inſult and attack, but to aſſert and vindicate the honour, the dignity, and the reputation of theſe kingdoms.

Wm Watts Gayer, *Edw. Gayer,* } Cler. Parliament."

His Excellency's Anſwer.

"My LORDS, It is difficult to find terms ſufficiently forcible to expreſs the ſatisfaction I am affected with, by the zeal and becoming ſpirit which dictated this addreſs."

"*Portſmouth,*

"*Portſmouth, April* 22. Yeſterday in the afternoon his Majeſty's ſhip the Trident, Capt Elliot, with the commiſſioners on board, ſailed from St Helen's for North America." *Lond. gaz.*

"*London, April* 20. Gov. Johnſtone, before his departure to America, applied to ſome gentlemen whom he knew were intimate acquaintance with many of the members of the congreſs before the war broke out, and obtained fifteen letters from them, fourteen to the members, and one to the preſident, ſtrongly recommending them to promote, as much as in their power lay, a reconciliation between their mother-country and them."

"*Portſmouth, April* 24. While the Trident lay at St Helen's, ſome raſcal cut the collar of the main ſtay, and the gammon of the bowſprit, which, if it had not been providentially diſcovered, the maſts in a ſlight gale of wind, would have gone by the board, the ſhip rendered incapable of proceeding on her voyage, and in a freſh gale muſt have foundered. This piece of miſchief was found out only an hour before ſailing."

"*Admiralty-office, April* 4. Capt. Cumming, of the Aurora, writes, in a letter from Barbadoes, dated Jan. 14. that he had, the day before, fallen in with, and taken, the St Peter, a rebel-privateer, commanded by Samuel Chace, of 18 guns ſix-pounders, and 130 men. She had been from Martinico five weeks on a cruiſe, and taken the Induſtry, Darling, from London to Barbadoes.

Capt. Colpoys, of the Seaford, in a letter dated, Barbadoes, Jan. 20. gives an account of his having taken, on the 18th, the General Waſhington brig, fitted out by the Congreſs, mounting 18 guns four pounders, as many ſwivels, and 130 men."

"*Admiralty-office, April* 21. Vice-Adm. Gayton, who arrived yeſterday at Spithead from Jamaica, gives an account, that the number of rebel-veſſels which had been taken by the ſhips of his ſquadron, at the time he left the iſland [188.], amounted to 235. [Of theſe 18 had been taken after the 27th [109.] of December]. He adds, that in his paſſage to England he fell in with and took a rebel-ſchooner from Bilboa, bound to Boſton, having on board 95 bales of woollens and 18 tons of iron."

"*Whitehaven, April* 23. A little before three o'clock this morning a man rapped at ſeveral doors in Marlborough ſtreet, (adjoining one of the piers), and informed the people, that fire had been ſet to one of the ſhips in the harbour, matches were laid in ſeveral others; the whole would be ſoon in a blaze, and the town alſo deſtroyed; that he was one belonging to the privateer, but had eſcaped for the purpoſe of ſaving, if poſſible, the town and ſhipping from deſtruction. The alarm was immediately ſpread, and his account proved too true. The Thompſon, Capt. Rich. Johnſon, a new veſſel, and one of the fineſt ever built here, was in a flame. It was low water, conſequently all the ſhipping in the port was in the moſt imminent danger, and the veſſel on which they had begun the diabolical work, lying cloſe to one of the ſtaiths, there was the greateſt reaſon to fear that the flames would from it be communicated to the town. But by an uncommon exertion the fire was extinguiſhed before it reached the rigging of the ſhip; and this, in a providential manner, prevented all the dreadful conſequences which might have enſued. The incendiaries had ſpiked moſt of guns of both our batteries, ſeveral matches were found on board different veſſels, and other combuſtible matter in different parts of the harbour. — Freeman, (the deſerter), on his examination, declared, that the party landed conſiſted of thirty men; that they belonged to the Ranger privateer, fitted out at Piſcataqua in New England, Capt. Jones commander; that ſhe mounted 18 guns beſides ſwivels, and had on board between 140 and 150 men; that ſhe had taken two prizes, and had ſent them into France; and that the Captain declared, that the deſtruction of Whitehaven was his firſt object, ſeizing the perſon of Lord Selkirk was the next thing he wiſhed, after which he would ſail for Breſt, and on his paſſage ſink, burn, and deſtroy whatever fell in his way, belonging to G. Britain."

"*Dumfries, April* 24. Yeſterday afternoon an expreſs arrived from Kirkcudbright, with accounts, that an American privateer of 20 guns had landed near the Iſle (St Mary's), and that a party from her had plundered Lord Selkirk's houſe. Mrs Wood, lady of the late Governor of the Iſle of Man, at preſent reſiding here, had gone, two or three days ago, on a viſit to Lady Selkirk, and returned here laſt night. She informs, that they were all well, and in good ſpirits; and ſays, that yeſterday morning, between

tween ten and eleven, a ſervant brought word, that a preſs-gang had landed near the houſe. This the party from the privateer had given out, in order, as was ſuppoſed, to get out of the way all the ſervants and others who might oppoſe them. Preſently between thirty and forty armed men came up; all of whom planted themſelves round the houſe, except three, who entered, each with two horſe-piſtols at his ſide; and, with bayonets fixed, they demanded to ſee the lady of the houſe; and, upon her appearing, told her, with a mixture of rudeneſs and civility, who they were, and that all the plate muſt be delivered to them. Lady Selkirk behaved with great compoſure and preſence of mind. She ſoon directed her plate to be delivered; with which, without doing any other damage, or aſking for watches, jewels, or any thing elſe, (which is odd), the gentlemen made off. There is reaſon to think that there were ſome people among them acquainted with perſons and places, and in particular one fellow, ſuppoſed to have been once a waiter at an inn in Kirkcudbright. The leader of the party, who was not the captain of the veſſel, told, that their intention was to ſeize Lord Selkirk, who is now in London; that two other privateers were at hand; and that they had been at Whitehaven, where they had burnt ſome ſmall veſſels, but did not get done what they intended. When the affair was ended, Lady Selkirk, with her family and viſitors, left the houſe."

"*Port-Glaſgow, April* 27. Laſt night Capt. Crawford, of the Cambraes wherry, arrived in town expreſs from a cruiſe, confirms all the news-paper intelligence concerning the privateer on the coaſt; and further adds, that on Friday laſt, the privateer, intending ſome miſchief in Belfaſt Loch, went in; but finding the Drake ſloop of war there, ſtood out again. The Drake, not knowing what ſhe was, ſent her boat and gang to preſs her hands; which the Ranger took, and carried along with them, and the Drake followed her, and on that evening engaged; but, night coming on, nothing was done till Saturday morning, when they again engaged; and, after a very hot engagement for an hour and five minutes, the Drake was obliged to ſtrike; the captain and firſt lieutenant killed, twenty-two men killed and wounded, ſhe had alſo one of her topmaſts carried away. They were ſo cloſe on Galloway coaſt, that Capt. Crawford, lying in Lochgair, heard the firing, made looſe, and ſtood out; but before ſhe got in ſight, the Drake was going away with the privateer. She had taken ſome fiſhing-boats on the coaſt of Ireland, whoſe crews were all put in irons during the engagement; but when it was over, they were all put in boats again and ſent away; and, on their paſſage to the ſhore, Capt. Crawford intercepted them, and got all the intelligence: the fiſhermen alſo told Capt. Crawford, that the privateer was wiſhing much to fall in with him and Campbell's cutter. Capt. Crawford made all the ſail he could for Clyde; and on Sunday morning fell in with the Thetis frigate off Plada, went on board, and gave Capt. Gillies all the intelligence, pointed out the courſe; and he, after giving Capt. Crawford an expreſs for the admiralty, crowded all ſail away for them."—But it would ſeem the Thetis never came up with the privateer.

"*London, April* 4. Two engineers, a commiſſary, and other officers, are ordered on a ſurvey of the ſeveral caſtles, forts, &c. on the ſea-coaſts of G. Britain: they are to begin with Sheerneſs, go down the Kentiſh and Suſſex coaſts, and ſo on all around this iſland."

The following are the numbers of the reſpective regiments of militia now called out.

Bedford	400	Rutland	120
Berks	560	Salop	640
Bucks	560	Somerſet	840
Cambridge	480	Southampton	960
Cheſter	560	Stafford	560
Cornwall	640	Suffolk	960
Cumberland	320	Surry	800
Derby	560	Suſſex	800
Devon	1600	Warwick	640
Dorſet	640	Weſtmoreland	240
Durham	400	Worceſter	560
Eſſex	960	Wilts	800
Glouceſter	960	York 1240	
Hereford	480	— N. Ri. 720	2360
Hertford	560	— E. Ri. 400	
Huntingdon	320	Angleſea	80
Kent	960	Brecknock	160
Lancaſter	800	Cardigan	120
Leiceſter	560	Carmarthen	200
Lincoln	1200	Carnarvon	80
Middleſex	1600	Denbigh	280
Monmouth	240	Flint	120
Norfolk	960	Glamorgan	360
Northampton	640	Merioneth	80
Northumberland	560	Montgomery	240
Nottingham	480	Pembroke	160
Oxford	560	Radnor	120
		Total	30,840

On

On the 20th of April the King reviewed the Manchester regiment, consisting of 1100 fine young fellows, on Datchet common. His Majesty was pleased to express to the commanding officer his warmest approbation for the zeal shewn by the inhabitants of Manchester in raising such a body of men in so short time. —— P. S. On the 2d of May Gen. Boyd set out from London for Portsmouth, to imbark, with the Manchester regiment, for Gibraltar. The last of the regiment imbarked April 29.

The following petition, signed by all the merchants of Canada then in London, was presented to Ld George Germaine, April 9.; to which his Lordship said he would give all the attention the importance of the subject required, and have it laid before the King's servants.

"To the Rt Hon. Lord George Germaine, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, &c.

The Petition * of the Merchants and such Inhabitants of the Province of Quebec as are at present in London †,

Sheweth,

THAT his Majesty's British subjects in that extensive colony, apprehending the inconveniencies which have since really arisen from the operation of an act of parliament passed in the year 1774, for establishing the government of the province of Quebec, did in the same year petition his Majesty, and both houses of parliament, that it might be repealed, or at least amended.

We beg leave to inform your Lordship, that, from the reduction of Canada to May 1775, when the above-mentioned act took place, the inhabitants, as well Canadians as English, lived with great satisfaction in the enjoyment of their liberty and property, under the protection of the English government ‡; and that they received the new regulations contained in the act with surprise and reluctance; for they saw themselves at once deprived of that inestimable privilege of the English constitution, that grand bulwark against injustice and oppression, the trial by juries, and of the benefit of the commercial laws of England, so wisely calculated to promote a spirit of trade and industry, and so generally known and understood; instead of which they found themselves obliged to have recourse to the laws of Canada, scarcely, if at all, understood * by any person in the province, and consisting chiefly of occasional mandates issued from time to time by the French governors. In consequence of this subjection to the arbitrary command of their superiors, many of the Canadians have been ordered out upon the public service, without any pay or emolument whatever; and upon refusal have been thrown into prison under a military guard †.

It cannot be wondered at, if, under such circumstances, discontents, and even dissatisfaction to his Majesty's government, should have crept in.

The ordinances lately made by the governor and council, in aid of the French law, have contributed to increase the general dissatisfaction. This council, when only twelve members were present, and each of them bound by an oath of secrecy, proceeded to make laws without requiring the least information, and with the most total disregard of an application from the merchants, who petitioned upon grounds of general utility, that they might not be deprived of the mercantile laws of England.

The ordinances furnish further matter of complaint, because of the ambiguous terms

* [A writer, under the signature *Scrutator*, makes remarks on this petition; — the chief of which we subjoin as notes.

† I would ask, by what authority twenty-four men undertake to interfere in so momentous a concern as an alteration of the religious and civil rights of a whole people? Upon the face of the business no deputation appears; they seem to act entirely from and for themselves.

‡ It is well known, that, previously to passing the act, it was proved, that the Canadians were highly dissatisfied with the mode of government that then prevailed, and were very desirous of a change.

* That is, a whole people were unacquainted with their own laws and customs; which, from the days of Adam to this time, is a circumstance impossible to have happened. The wildest savages, the Hottentots, the Otaheiteans, must know their own constitutions, or it would be impossible for them to exist as a society.

† This was by the authority of martial law [37. 421.]; which, upon a similar crisis, would take place at home. Without doubt, upon an invasion, the King could command the services of all his subjects, and under that authority the Canadians were ordered out. To be sure it was an instance of singular cruelty to compel them to defend their own country when invaded!

terms in which they are expreſſed, of the indefinite powers which they give to the judges, and of the prejudice which prevails in them without exception, in favour of the laws of Canada *, whoſe forms are tedious, expenſive, and unneceſſary. In particular, the ordinance regulating the Indian trade ſubjects the trade to inſuperable difficulties †: for the paſs he obtains is upon conditions frequently out of his power to comply with; and his whole property is, in conſequence, liable to confiſcation by the civil, or ſeizure by the military power, upon an information laid againſt him by any perſon tempted by a proſpect of the reward. Nor, though the information be falſe, is there any proviſion to redreſs the trade, though he may be equally ruined by the expence, and the delay of his journey in the proper ſeaſon. Theſe difficulties are ſo alarming, that though this trade is by far the moſt conſiderable in the province, ſince the commencement of the preſent unhappy diſputes, whenever the communication from Albany ſhall be open, a great part of it will be carried on from the province of New York, notwithſtanding the ſituation of Canada is in all reſpects more convenient.

We beg leave to aſſure your Lordſhip, that theſe cauſes, originating chiefly from the Quebec act, have concurred to ſpread a general diſcontent throughout the province, without any advantage to the parent-ſtate, and ſo far to alienate the affections of his Majeſty's ſubjects, as to give great reaſon to apprehend a diſpoſition in them to change their preſent form of government, ſhould ſuch an opportunity unhappily offer ‡.

We therefore humbly intreat your Lordſhip, to take into your conſideration the dangerous and confuſed ſituation of this colony, and grant us your patronage and aſſiſtance in endeavouring to obtain a repeal of the Quebec act *, the ſource of theſe grievances, and an eſtabliſhment in its ſtead of a free government, by an aſſembly or repreſentation of the people, agreeable to his Majeſty's royal promiſe, contained in his proclamation made in the year 1763 [25. 577.]. This meaſure alone, which we are firmly perſuaded is founded equally on the principles of juſtice and good policy, is adapted to conciliate the minds of a diſſatisfied people, to confirm their wavering diſpoſition, and to reſtore that mutual confidence between the governors and the governed which is eſſentially neceſſary to the happineſs of both.

London, April 2. 1778.

Charles Grant	James Finlay
Alexander Daviſon	Alexander Henry
Thomas Aylwin	Allen Paterſon
John Salmon	Alexander Frazer
John Paterſon	Wm Smith
Jean A. D. Hemair	Joſiah Blaikley
Robert M'Williams	John Macdonald
Wm Lindſay	Wm Aird
John Shannan	Iſaac Todd
Edward Watts	Adam Lymburner
Daniel Sutherland	John Pagan
Charles Paterſon	Randle Meredith."

Accounts were received from Plymouth dock, that on the 1ſt of April, one Donald of the 21ſt regiment, was ſhot, and another ſoldier received 1000 laſhes, for aiding the eſcape of ſome American priſoners in Mill-priſon.

"*York, April* 28. One Thomas Nicholſon, who, at the Lent aſſizes here in 1772, was ordered to be tranſported for

* That is, ſuch laws are made conformable to the conſtitution of the country.

† In a petition from the aſſembly of New York, in March 1775, (See Almon's Regiſter for that year, p. 476), the repreſentatives complain of "the act of the laſt ſeſſion of parliament," and poſitively aſſert, that the operation of that act will occaſion the whole of the Indian trade to centre in Canada. Now, if any perſon is ſo abſurd as to ſuppoſe, that the king or parliament ſhould be influenced by ſuch petitions without the minuteſt inquiry, which of the above contradictory repreſentations would deſerve the preference? How could a miniſter act ſo as to pleaſe both theſe parties? We find it is very eaſy to pleaſe neither.

‡ [See this note on next column]

‡ Do theſe words want any interpretation? Do they not clearly expreſs, that the inhabitants of Canada will join in the rebellion if this requeſt is not complied with? Is this the language of petitioners ſuffering under grievances?

* The prayer of this petition is ſingularly curious: The grievances recited are purely of a commercial or civil nature; and what do they pray for? Not a ſpecific redreſs of them, but a repeal of the Quebec act altogether, part of which eſtabliſhes their religion to the Canadians, and upon which head they make no complaint. Obſerve, then, how logical their concluſion is: "We cannot get ſkins from the Indians as formerly; *ergo*, the Canadians ought not to enjoy the religion under which they were born and educated.

ſeven years, was carried to Boſton; where he remained till the beginning of the troubles there; and, having refuſed to take up arms againſt government, made his eſcape from thence, and came to London; where his caſe being repreſented to the King, he obtained his Majeſty's pardon. His wife died juſt at the time he was ſent off, and left two children, which have been kept by Caſtlegate pariſh till laſt week; when he came to this city, undertook to keep them in future, and promiſed to reimburſe the pariſh for all the expence they had been at on their account."

On the 28th of April a grant of a licence of the theatre of Briſtol to George Daubeny, Eſq; [44.] of the ſame city, paſſed the great ſeal.

On the 1ſt of April paſſed the great ſeal a ſpecial pardon to Lord Ogilvy, who was concerned in the rebellion 1745 [viii. 269.], of all high treaſons, crimes, and offences, by him committed before the 17th day of March 1778.

SCOTLAND. [110.]

To forward the recruiting-ſervice, there have been military proceſſions in different cities and boroughs. In the evening of the 8th of January, the Duke of Athol, with Maj. Macbean of the royal artillery on his right hand, and Col. Brown on his left, made a proceſſion through Perth, with flambeaux, beginning at Marſhall's inn, where a hogſhead of porter was freely diſtributed to the populace. Maj. Macbean gave the firſt toaſt, "Succeſs to the Athol Highlanders;" the Duke the ſecond, "King George;" and Col. Brown the third, "The town of Perth." This was repeated at Campbell's, Maxton's, and Burt's inns. The proceſſion was attended with a bagpipe and drum. His Grace was in the highland dreſs, and had a red feather in his bonnet. Proceſſions were afterwards made at Dundee, and other places.

A ſimilar proceſſion was made by the Duke of Hamilton at Glaſgow, Jan. 22. where no fewer than forty pretty fellows took money from his Grace at the drum-head. His Grace proceeded thence to Hamilton, Strathaven, &c.

At Glaſgow, Jan. 26. a proceſſion was made by the magiſtrates, in their formalities, with the city-colours, drums, fifes, and pipe, young gentlemen of the city acting as drummers, &c.; followed by the town-clerk, the council, and the deacons of trades; and cloſed with the Cap club, their ſovereign in his regalia on their head. The company dined at the Saracen's head; and in the evening made a ſecond proceſſion, with flambeaux, bonfires, illuminations, ringing of bells, &c. A great number of fine young fellows flocked to the ſtandard, and inliſted to ſerve in the Glaſgow regiment.

On the 4th of February ſeveral of the officers and ſerjeants belonging to the Edinburgh regiment, with a great number of recruits, beat up through the city. The novelty of parading the high ſtreet for ſuch a purpoſe, which is never allowed to any recruiting-party, convened a prodigious concourſe of ſpectators; and many fine young fellows took money at the drum-head, at the croſs, and other places. A cart went along, loaded with porter, which was liberally diſtributed to the populace.

To the towns, ſocieties, &c. formerly mentioned [52.], who gave bounties to volunteers, we have to add,—Burntiſland and Kirkaldy jointly, five guineas to the parents or wife of any volunteer of the county of Fife who ſhall inliſt with Lieut. Rutherford in the Duke of Hamilton's regiment; Dingwall, two guineas a-man for Lord Macleod's regiment, in his Lordſhip's own company, or that of his brother Major George Mackenzie; Inverneſs, two guineas a-man for Lord Macleod's regiment, in his Lordſhip's, Lt-Col. Duff's, or Capt. John Shaw's companies; the incorporated trades of Inverneſs, two guineas a-man, for Lord Macleod's regiment, in Lt-Col. Duff's company; Dumfries, four guineas a-man for any of the old regiments, or for the ſea or marine ſervice; the Beggars Benniſon Order at Anſtruther, one guinea a-man, with the *Beggar's Bleſſing*, for the Earl of Seaforth's regiment, in Capt. Robert Lumiſdain's company; Craill, two guineas a-man, for the Earl of Seaforth's regiment, in Capt. Robert Lumiſdain's company; Kirkcudbright, four guineas a-man, for Col. Gordon's regiment, in Capt. Gordon's company, or with Lieut. Newall or Heron, or for the Edinburgh volunteers; a number of the inhabitants of Stirling, three guineas a man for any regiment formerly raiſed or now raiſing, or for the ſea-ſervice;—alſo, for different corps, the towns of Anſtruther Eaſter and Weſter, Paiſley, Whithorn,

horn, King's-kettle, Brechin, Huntly, the Mechanic ſociety of Borrowſtounneſs, Greenock coopers, Kilmarnock, Kelſo, Wigton, Stranraer, Borrowſtounneſs, Aberbrothock trades, Forfar, Berwickſhire farmers, Irvine, Lanerk ſhoemakers, Lanerk weavers, Falkirk, Peebles, Fortroſe, Linlithgow; and Air town five guineas a-man who enter on board the Berwick, Hon. Keith Stewart; and Orkney county to raiſe 100 ſeamen. Though we preſume we have mentioned the greateſt number, yet probably ſome are omitted.

At a meeting of the freeholders, commiſſioners of ſupply, and juſtices of peace of the county of Banff, at Banff, Jan. 26. the Earl Fife in the chair, it was reſolved, unanimouſly, to beſtow their advice, attendance, and attention, to the fair and regular methods of recruiting, and in that way to promote his Majeſty's ſervice to the utmoſt of their power; and to oppoſe every illegal method taken, to defend any perſon ſo oppreſſed, and to protect the people going to and coming from markets. The noblemen of the county joined in this meaſure, and the reſolution was advertiſed in the newspapers.

A meeting of the county of Air, Feb. 4. delayed coming to any reſolution on the ſubject till it could be known in what manner their exertions could be of the greateſt public utility; and were unanimouſly of opinion, that an impreſs-act [18. 113.;—19. 61.] would be of more avail to the recruiting-ſervice than bounties offered by different communities.

In our laſt [168.] we gave a liſt of the corps lately raiſed, two in England, and nine in Scotland. A militia for Scotland was talked of; but, in its ſtead, corps are now raiſing under the name of *Fencible Men*, by the Dukes of Buccleugh and Gordon, and Lord Frederick Campbell.——The terms are explained in the following letter from the ſecretary at war, to Lord Frederick Campbell.

"My Lord. *War-office, April* 14. 1778.

I am commanded by the King to acquaint your Lordſhip, that his Majeſty approves of the plan for raiſing a battalion of Fenſible Men for the internal protection of North Britain, on the terms propoſed by your Lordſhip, as follows. The regiment ſhall conſiſt of eight battalion-companies, one company of grenadiers, and one of light infantry; the battalion-companies to conſiſt of one captain, two lieutenants, one enſign, five ſerjeants, five corporals, two drummers, and one hundred private men each; the grenadier-company, of one captain, three lieutenants, five ſerjeants, five corporals, two drummers, two fifers, and one hundred private men; the light-infantry company, of one captain, three lieutenants, five ſerjeants, five corporals, two drummers, and one hundred private men; with the uſual ſtaff-officers: The regiment to have the field-officers under mentioned, viz. one colonel, one lieutenant-colonel, and one major, each having alſo a company, and one major without a company, receiving an allowance of 10 s. *per diem*, in lieu thereof, and 5 s. *per diem* as major; but, it will be a matter of future conſideration, whether, in caſe of the death or promotion of the additional major, the pay of ſuch additional major ſhall not ceaſe upon the eſtabliſhment. —The regiment to be under your Lordſhip's command.

The recruits are to receive ſubſiſtence from the reſpective days of their atteſtations, and *one guinea* to be paid to each man enrolled, on his arrival at the rendezvous of his company.

The King leaves to your Lordſhip the recommendation of all the officers, being ſuch as are well affected to his Majeſty, and moſt likely by their intereſt and connection to forward the completion of the corps; a liſt of whom your Lordſhip will be pleaſed to tranſmit to me as ſoon as convenient, for his Majeſty's information.

None of the officers appointed to this regiment are to have rank longer than while it remains on the eſtabliſhment, nor when reduced are they to be entitled to half-pay. Both theſe circumſtances are, I know, perfectly well underſtood by your Lordſhip; yet I muſt take the liberty of adding, that your Lordſhip cannot too fully explain the matter reſpecting rank to the gentlemen you mean to propoſe for commiſſions, that they may not in future conceive they have derived any claim whatever to permanent rank in the army, from their ſervices in your Lordſhip's regiment.

It may be proper to mention, that if your Lordſhip takes any officers from the half-pay, they will be replaced thereon on the reduction of the regiment.

In all reſpects of pay, cloathing, arms, and accoutrements, the corps is to be on

the ſame footing as his Majeſty's other marching regiments.

The beating-order to authoriſe this levy being made out in the uſual form, allows the recruiting to be carried on in any part of Great Britain; it is meant, notwithſtanding, to be confined to the counties in Scotland propoſed by your Lordſhip, viz. *Argyle*, *Bute*, *Dumbarton*, *Renfrew*, *Lanerk*, and *Air*.

The regiment is to ſerve in any part of Scotland, but not to march out of it, except in caſe of invaſion on the more ſouthern parts of the kingdom. The men are not to be draughted; and, in the event of their being ordered into England, his Majeſty conſents, that they ſhall not be reduced there, but be marched back in a corps, and diſembodied in Scotland.

The King hopes, that the corps will be completed within three months, the period mentioned by your Lordſhip: and though it has been cuſtomary in new levies, to ſtipulate, that the recruits ſhall not be under five feet four inches, nor under eighteen nor above thirty years of age; yet his Majeſty thinks it unneceſſary to preſcribe theſe limits on the preſent occaſion; in full confidence, that from your Lordſhip's zeal for his ſervice, and regard for your country, every exertion will be uſed to recruit the corps with men fit for active and immediate duty.

In the execution of this ſervice, I beg leave to aſſure your Lordſhip of every aſſiſtance that this office can afford.

I have the honour to be, &c.

BARRINGTON."

It was, however, afterwards reſolved, in place of one guinea, to give two guineas levy-money, that being the levy-money given to Sutherland's Fenſibles laſt war.

In the beginning of February the canal from the Forth to the Clyde was advanced, by the collateral cut, to within a mile north of Glaſgow [37. 165. 461.]. The Earl of Dunmore, of 60 tons, the firſt veſſel built at the weſt end of the canal, was then rigging in the baſon, and ſeveral ſloops were loading and livering.

Thurſday, Feb. 26. was obſerved as a faſt all over Scotland [42.]. At Edinburgh the churches were crouded; and the meeting-houſes not belonging to the eſtabliſhment were likewiſe well attended, the Antiburgher Seceders excepted, who hold it to be an uſurpation of the rights of the church, for the civil magiſtrate to appoint a faſt [3. 28.].

In the Caledonian Mercury of April 25. appeared a letter, addreſſed to the printer of that paper, from the Synod of Dumfries, viz.

"SIR, I am appointed by the Synod of Dumfries, to requeſt you to publiſh the following letter; which will much oblige, Sir, Your humble ſervant,

JOHN DOWE, Moderator.

THE Synod of Dumfries being met here yeſterday, and having had laid before them your news-paper of the 16th of February laſt, [110.], containing an alledged extract of a letter from a gentleman in Dumfries to his friend in Edinburgh, they think themſelves bound, from a regard to truth and juſtice, publicly to vindicate themſelves, and the people within their bounds, from the falſe and moſt injurious aſperſions of their principles, with regard to government, caſt upon them in ſaid letter, and publicly circulated by your ſaid news-paper. The Synod of Dumfries have ever been diſtinguiſhed for their affection to government, and attachment to our preſent happy conſtitution. Their loyalty to his Majeſty at this important criſis, and abhorrence of the unnatural rebellion of his colonies in North America, as well as their wiſhes that the moſt ſpeedy and effectual meaſures might be employed for ſuppreſſing it, were amply declared in an addreſs from them to his Majeſty in April 1776, which was graciouſly received.

The author of ſaid letter alledges, "That an addreſs to his Majeſty (of which he incloſes what he calls a draught) was read in the Provincial Synod of Dumfries on the firſt Tueſday of October laſt, in conſequence of an overture made, That the Synod ſhould teſtify againſt the preſent ruinous and unnatural war in America; and that the Synod ſeemed pretty much divided upon the matter."

The Synod, indeed, remember, that there was a motion made at their meeting in October laſt, by Mr Muirhead, miniſter at Urr, in their committee for overtures, "That the Synod would addreſs the King to put an immediate termination to the preſent ruinous and unnatural war on the other ſide of the Atlantic;" or in words to that purpoſe: which motion the committee, with teſtimonies of high diſapprobation, refuſed to tranſmit to the Synod. Notwithſtanding this refuſal, Mr Muirhead, by a pro-

teſt,

teſt, brought the ſaid motion before a full meeting of Synod, and read his propoſed addreſs as part of his ſpeech; but whether preciſely of the ſame tenor with the draught publiſhed by you, the Synod cannot poſitively ſay; but, as Mr Muirhead thought proper inſtantly to withdraw that addreſs, no further notice was taken of it.

This is the real matter of fact reſpecting that affair. In ſhort, the Synod are exceedingly ſorry that ſuch groſs falſehoods and calumnies have been publiſhed, ſo injurious to the honour of the Synod, and to the principles of the people of all ranks under their charge. And, on theſe accounts, looking upon themſelves to be under a neceſſity of making this vindication to the world, they require you to publiſh this letter in your next Mercury. And, viewing this affair in a ſerious and important light, they further peremptorily require you to write me immediately what authority you had for publiſhing ſaid defamatory extract.

I am, Sir, Your moſt obedient ſervant,

JOHN DOWE, Moderator.

Dumfries, April 22.

P. S. Direct your anſwer to the Rev. Mr John Dowe, Miniſter of Canonby, near Langholm.

This Poſtſcript is from David Imrie, Cl. Syn."

Impartiality induced us [ſay the publiſhers] to publiſh the above, as well as Mr Imrie's poſtſcript, verbatim. We always chuſe to publiſh facts. We never meant in the leaſt to reflect on the loyalty of the Synod of Dumfries. We hope their addreſs to his Majeſty, in 1776, was ſincere and *unanimous*, as we have no doubt their above reſolution was; though the Moderator does not ſay ſo much. We muſt, however, obſerve, that the above letter does not, in the ſmalleſt degree, invalidate the authenticity of the piece animadverted upon: on the contrary, it ſeems rather to confirm it. In anſwer to the peremptory requiſition of the Moderator, we beg leave to inform him, that it is not our practice to give up the names of our correſpondents, more eſpecially when called upon in ſuch a cavalier manner. — It was ſaid, in the letter from Dumfries, complained of, that Mr Muirhead, on account of the thinneſs of that meeting of Synod, agreed to withdraw his motion for an addreſs at that time; but with ſolemn aſſurances, that he would bring it on in the April meeting of the Synod. We would be glad to know if Mr Muirhead was as good as his word, the Moderator's letter being entirely ſilent as to this point.

MARRIAGES.

April 5. At London, Douglas Duke of Hamilton, to Miſs Eliſabeth Burrel, youngeſt daughter of the late Peter Burrel, Eſq; of Beckenham in Kent, and ſiſter of Ld Algernon Percy's lady. [37 342.]

16. At London, Mr Damer, ſecond ſon of Lord Milton, to Miſs Janſen of Lower Groſvenor-ſtreet.

23. At London, Sir Archibald Edmonſtone, Bt, of St James's, Weſtminſter, to Miſs Heſter Heathcote, of St George's, Hanover-ſquare.

25. At Ipſwich, Lt-Col. Laurie, knight of the ſhire for the county of Dumfries, and only ſon of Sir Robert Laurie, Bt, to Mrs Wollaſton, relict of Robert Wollaſton, Eſq;

26. At London, the Hon. Temple Luttrel, member for Milborne Port, to Miſs Gould, daughter of Sir Henry Gould, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas.

30. At Leith, Alexander Mackenzie, Eſq; only ſon of Sir Alexander Mackenzie of Coule, Bt, to Miſs Katharine Ramſay, daughter of Robert Ramſay, Eſq; of Camno.

30. At Know, Roxburghſhire, Alexander Horſburgh, of Horſburgh, Eſq; to Miſs Violet Turnbull, eldeſt daughter of Thomas Turnbull of Know, Eſq;

BIRTHS.

April 2. At London, the lady of Dr North, Biſhop of Worceſter, of a ſon.

17. At Avenue-head, near Edinburgh, the lady of Sir George Colquhoun, Bt, heir-male of the family of Luſs, of a ſon.

30. At Invergarie-houſe, Mrs Macdonell of Glengarie, of a ſon.

DEATHS.

Oct. 14 1777. At Luckypore, in the kingdom of Bengal, Capt. David Penman, in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India company.

Nov. 17. At Calcutta, Henry Wedderburn, Eſq; maſter attendant of the company's marine.

Sir John Clavering, K. B. Lieutenant-General, Colonel of the 52d regiment, ſecond in council, and commander in chief of the forces in Bengal. The account of his death was received at London in the beginning of April.

March 24. 1778. In foreign parts, Sir James Kinloch, Bt. He is ſucceeded in his title by David Kinloch of Gilmerton, Eſq; his brother.

At Paris, the Viſcounteſs Mountgarret.

Rev Dr Daniel O'Reilly, titular biſhop of Clogher in Ireland.

April 2. At London, Charles Van, Eſq; member for Brecon.

2. At London, Mrs Roſs, wife of Mr Roſs, comedian, the late famous Miſs Fanny Murray.

4. At Moy in Argyleſhire, John Maclaine of Lochbuy, Eſq;

5 At London, the Hon John Southwell, youngeſt ſon of the late Lord Clifton

5. At London, Marmaduke Lord Langdale, the fifth of that title. Dying without male iſſue, the title is extinct.

6. At Heaton, Matthew Ridley, Eſq; late member for Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

11 At Ramſay-lodge, near Edinburgh, Mrs Lumſdaine of Blanerne.

11. At Luncarty, near Perth, in the 84th year of her age, Mrs Margaret Ramſay, relict of Mr David Sandeman, merchant in Perth. She had before her death 127 deſcendents, viz. 12 children, 74 grandchildren, and 41 great-grandchildren; 73 of whom are ſtill alive.

14 At Stebbing in Eſſex, Mrs Joſlin, a widow lady, aged 101 years.

16. At London, aged 99, John le Fevre, Eſq; formerly belonging to the poſt office.

20 At St Andrew's, near Elgin, in the 81ſt year of his age, and 51ſt of his miniſtry, Mr John Paterſon, miniſter of that pariſh.

21. At Writtle in Eſſex, George Linguard, Eſq; In his will he ordered, that he ſhould be drawn in his beſt waggon, by ſix of his long-tail'd horſes, decorated with bells, and carried to Writtle church on Monday morning, there to be left till afternoon-ſervice, and then interred.

25. At London, Andrew Lord Archer. His Lordſhip has left four daughters, but no ſon; ſo that the title is extinct; his Lordſhip being the only ſon of the late Thomas Lord Archer, who was created a peer in July 1747.

28. At —— in France, Henry d'Acary de Beaucovoy, Lord of Cuviemont, &c. Knight of the order of St Louis, governor of Beauquefre, &c. aged 120 years.

28. At Glaſgow, Dr James Baillie, profeſſor of divinity in that univerſity.

30. At London, the Hon Mrs Wrotteſley, mother to the Dutcheſs of Grafton.

30. At Edinburgh, Mary Eliſabeth Spencer, wife of Alexander Thomſon, Eſq; late of Georgia, North America.

At Ruabon in Denbighſhire, Mrs Eliſabeth Lloyd, a maiden lady, aged 113

At Wednersfield, near Wolverhampton, William Iven, aged 115 years. He retained all his mental faculties till the day of his death, was remarkably chearful, and frequently heard ſinging. He married four wives, the laſt in his 105th year, through principle; as he declared, when interrogated by the clergyman, that he had always lived a virtuous life, and always would.

At Thorp-green, near Greenhamerton in Yorkſhire, in the 105th year of his age, Thomas Clemeſhaw.

At London, Miſs Maria Lydia Lucrine, a maiden lady of genteel fortune, and who ſome years ſince meeting with a diſappointment as to matrimony, made a vow "never to ſee the light again;" accordingly the windows of her apartments were cloſely ſhut up, and ſhe ſtrictly kept her reſolution.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

April 11. to appoint Sir John Williams, Kt, and Edward Hunt, Eſq; to be Surveyor of the Navy.

—13. to order letters-patent to be paſſed under the great ſeal of Great Britain, conſtituting and appointing Frederick Earl of Carliſle, Knight of the Thiſtle; Richard Lord Viſcount Howe, of the kingdom of Ireland; Sir William Howe, Knight of the Bath, Lieutenant-General of his Majeſty's forces, and General of his Majeſty's forces in North America only; William Eden, Eſq; one of the Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations; and George Johnſtone, Eſq; Captain in the Royal Navy, to be his Majeſty's Commiſſioners to treat, conſult, and agree upon the means of quieting the diſorders now ſubſiſting in certain of his Majeſty's colonies, plantations, and provinces in North America.

21. to preſent Mr John Baird, preacher of the goſpel, to the church and pariſh of Collace, in the preſbytery and county of Perth, vacant by the death of Mr Hamilton Kilgour, late miniſter there.

"*Dublin Caſtle, April* 10. His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant was pleaſed to confer the honour of Knighthood on Capt. George Maſſy.

War-office, March 10.

[*For Subalterns ſee our cover.*]

Col. Hector Munro to be Barrackmaſter-General in North Britain, vice James Maſterton.

Enſ. Thomas Bickerton, of the Invalids at Sheerneſs, to be Town-Major of Berwick, vice James Eliott.

War office, April 7.

16th reg. of light dragoons: Surg. William Fraſer, from 71ſt regiment, to be Surgeon, vice David Barry.

17th reg. of light dragoons: Lieut. William Lord Cathcart to be Captain, vice Peter Hedman Elliſton; and Lieut. Thomas Leigh, from 16th light dragoons, to be Captain, vice Joſeph Moxham.

10th reg. of foot: Lieut. Thomas Gorges, from 33d regiment, to be Captain, vice Monday Pole.

26th reg. of foot: Capt.-Lieut. Jocelyn Feltham to be Captain, vice Rowland Swan; Lieut.

Lieut. Edward Thompſon to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Jocelyn Feltham; Lieut. Charles Gordon, from 71ſt regiment, to be Captain, vice John Strong.

27th reg. of foot: Lieut. John Birch to be Captain, vice Thomas Moore; Capt. Michael Cuſſe to be Major, vice Henry Conron; and Lieut. Henry Moore to be Captain, vice Michael Cuſſe.

28th reg. of foot: Lieut. William Jephſon to be Captain, vice William Evans.

45th reg of foot; Capt.-Lieut. William Snowe to be Captain, vice Edward Hubbard; and Lieut. Samuel Ruxton to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice William Snowe.

57th reg. of foot: Lieut. James Dalrymple, from 43d regiment, to be Captain, vice Charles Bell.

60th reg of foot, 3d battalion: Lieut. Thomas Taylor Bird, from 16th foot, to be Captain, vice Chriſtopher Pauli.

War-office, April 14.

1ſt reg. of dragoon-guards: Lt-Col. Anthony Lovibond is appointed to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Robert Sloper; Capt. Richard Downes to be Major, vice Anthony Lovibond; and Capt. Montgomery Agnew, from halfpay, to be Captain, vice Richard Downes.

1ſt reg. of dragoons: William Neville (Clerk) to be Chaplain, vice Richard Kendall.

6th reg. of dragoons: Lt-Gen. James Johnſton, of 1ſt horſe, to be Colonel, vice Edward Harvey.

2d reg. of foot: Maj. William Dalrymple to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice James Barker; Capt. James Holwell to be Major, vice William Dalrymple; and Lieut. Richard Rich Wilford to be Captain, vice James Holwell.

58th reg. of foot: Capt. William King to be Major, vice George Gledſtanes; Capt.-Lieut. Robert Agnew to be Captain, vice William King; and Lieut. William Markham to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Robert Agnew.

69th reg. of foot: Lieut. Thomas Money to be Captain, vice Daniel Houghton.

Lieut.-Gen' Archibald Douglas,
Sir John Griffin Griffin,
Studholme Hodgſon,
George Auguſtus Elliott,
To be Generals in the Army.

John Parr, Eſq; late Lieutenant-Colonel in 20th foot, to be Major of the Tower of London, vice Henry Collins.

Lt-Gen. Robert Monckton to be Governor of Portſmouth, vice Edward Harvey.

Lt-Gen. Alexander Mackay to be Governor of Languard Fort, vice Sir John Clavering.

Lt-Gen. Lord Adam Gordon to be Governor of Tinmouth, vice Alexander Mackay.

Major John Campbell to be Lieutenant-Colonel in America only.

Independent Company of Foot.

Lieut. John Edwards, of 45th regiment, to be Captain.

Lieut. George Charles Montagu, of the Huntingdonſhire militia, to be Lieutenant.

Lieut. William Pearſe, of ditto, to be Lieutenant.

Robert Marſhall, Gent. to be Enſign.

War-office, April 21.

Royal reg of horſe-guards: Corn Philip Hyatt, from half-pay, is appointed to be Quartermaſter, vice John Griffiths.

10th reg. of dragoons: R. Bloxham, Hoſpital Mate, to be Surgeon, vice Peter Bernard

2d reg. of foot: Surgeon's Mate John Perryn, of 6th foot, to be Surgeon, vice John Marſhall.

Lt-Gen. Frederick Haldimand to be Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, vice Sir Guy Carleton. [39. 624.]

Capt. Montgomery Agnew, of 1ſt dragoon-guards, to be Major in the Army.

Capt. William Browne, of the Invalids, to be Governor of Upnor, vice James Murray.

Gen. Sir John Mordaunt to be Governor of Berwick, vice Sir John Clavering.

Lt-Gen. Francis Craig to be Governor of Sheerneſs, vice Sir John Mordaunt.

Maj. Montgomery Agnew to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

Surg. John Marſhall, of 2d foot, to be Surgeon to the Hoſpital at Halifax in Nova Scotia.

Surg. Peter Bernard, of 10th dragoons, to be Apothecary to ditto.

Commiſſions ſigned by his Majeſty for the army in Ireland.

Two dated April 2. 1778. viz.

1ſt reg. of horſe: Maj.-Gen. George Warde, of the 14th reg. of light dragoons, to be Colonel, vice Lt-Gen. James Johnſton, removed.

14th light dragoons: Maj-Gen. Robert Sloper, of the 1ſt or the King's regiment of dragoon-guards, to be Colonel, vice Maj-Gen. George Warde.

"*St James's, March 26. 1778.* The King has been pleaſed to direct, That, for the future, the captain lieutenants of militia ſhall bear the rank of Captain, and that all captain-lieutenants of militia ſhall take the rank as Captains on all occaſions from the date hereof, or from the dates of ſuch commiſſions of Captain-Lieutenant as his Majeſty's lieutenants of counties may hereafter give. WEYMOUTH."

From

From other papers, &c.

Lord William Gordon, brother of the Duke of Gordon, Deputy-Ranger of St James's and Hyde parks, in the room of the Hon. Thomas Shirley, who reſigned. Appointed Feb 13.

From a correſpondent.

Penſible Men. New Levies. [168. 219.]

1ſt, Duke of Buccleugh's.
Col. Henry Duke of Buccleugh
Lt-Col. James Pringle
Maj^{s} Sir James Johnſtone, Bt.
William Hay

2d. Lord Frederick Campbell's.
Col. Lord Frederick Campbell
Lt-Col. Sir James Campbell
Maj^{s} —— Montgomery
—— MacRae

3d, Duke of Gordon's.
Col. Alexander Duke of Gordon
Lt Col. Lord William Gordon
Maj^{s} James Mercer

Ships of war commiſſioned, and new Captains appointed, ſince my laſt [64.]. R. R.

Ships	*Guns.*	*Commanders.*
Queen	90	Iſaac Preſcott
Suffolk	74	Adam Duncan
Royal Oak	74	H. Fr. Evans
Egmont	74	John C Ailen
Bedford	74	—— Aſtleck
Albion	74	Geo Bowyer
Europa	64	Francis Parry
Lion	64	Lord Wm Campbell
Burford	64	P. Fotheringhame
Jupiter	50	Charles Middleton
Antelope	50	Chas. Holmes Event
Janus	44	Bonovier Glover
Fox	28	Hon Tho. Windſor
Jaſon	28	Ja. Pigot
Proteus	28	S. Warren
Amphytrite	24	T. Gaborian
Hind	20	Charles Hope
Helena, ſchooner	14	T. Hicks
Alert, cutter	10	Geo. W. Fairfax
Nymph	14	Wm Denne
Bombs: Ætna	8	Philip Patton
Bombs: Veſuvius	8	Ab. Criſpin
Armed ſhips: Three Siſters	20	Herb. Wyborn
Armed ſhips: Three Brothers	20	Hugh Baikie
Armed ſhips: Satisfaction	20	P. Foulkes
Armed ſhips: Merchant	20	Sir H. Heron, Bt.
Armed ſhips: Counteſs of Scarborough	20	Thomas Piercy

Prices of grain at Haddington, May 1. 1778.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	21s. 6d.	20s. 6d.	19s. 6d.
Bear,	15s. 3d.	14s. 10d	14s. 0d.
Oats,	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d.	10s. 6d.
Peaſe,	11s. 0d	10s. 0d.	9s. 6d.

Edinburgh, May 22. Oat-meal, 10 d. 2 f. Bear-meal, 7 d. Peaſe meal, 7 d.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard, Edinburgh, in April 1778.

Males 21, Females 32 } 53. Decreaſed 9.

Age.	N°	Diſeases.	N°
Under 2	18	Aged ——	6
Between 2 & 5	6	Aſthma —	2
5 & 10	2	Cancer —	1
10 & 20	3	Conſumption —	15
20 & 30	2	Childbed —	1
30 & 40	4	Fever —	12
40 & 50	5	Meaſles —	3
50 & 60	4	Smallpox —	5
60 & 70	5	Stillborn —	2
70 & 80	3	Teething —	6
80 & 90	1		
90 & 100	0		

PRICES of STOCKS.

	April 13. 1778.	April 28. 1778.
Bank Stock	107 3 4ths ex div.	107 1 4th a 107 2 1 4th
India ditto	—	129 1 half
South-Sea ditto	—	—
Ditto Old Ann.	—	—
Ditto New Ann	—	—
3 per cent. Bank red	61 1 4th a 60 7 8ths ex div.	61 1 8th
3 per cent. Conſ.	61 1 4th a 60 3 4ths a 60 7 8ths	61 1 8th, a 1 4th a 1 8th
Ditto 1726,	—	—
Ditto 1751,	—	—
Ditto India Ann.	—	—
3 and a half per cent. 1758,	62 1 4th a 62	—
4 per cent Conſ. 1760,	—	62 5 8ths a 3 4ths a 5 6th
2 per cent. 1777,	79 3 8ths	78 7 8ths a 79 1 4th a 1 8th
India bonds,	28 s. a 26 s. diſc.	28 s. a 21 s. diſc.
Navy and Vict Bills,	8 s. diſc.	—
Long Annuities,	—	—
Short ditto,	—	—
Scrip,	62 1 4th a 61 3 8ths a 62 1 8th a 61 7 8ths	62 1 8th a 1 4th a 1 8th
Annuities 1778,	—	13 1 8th